



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

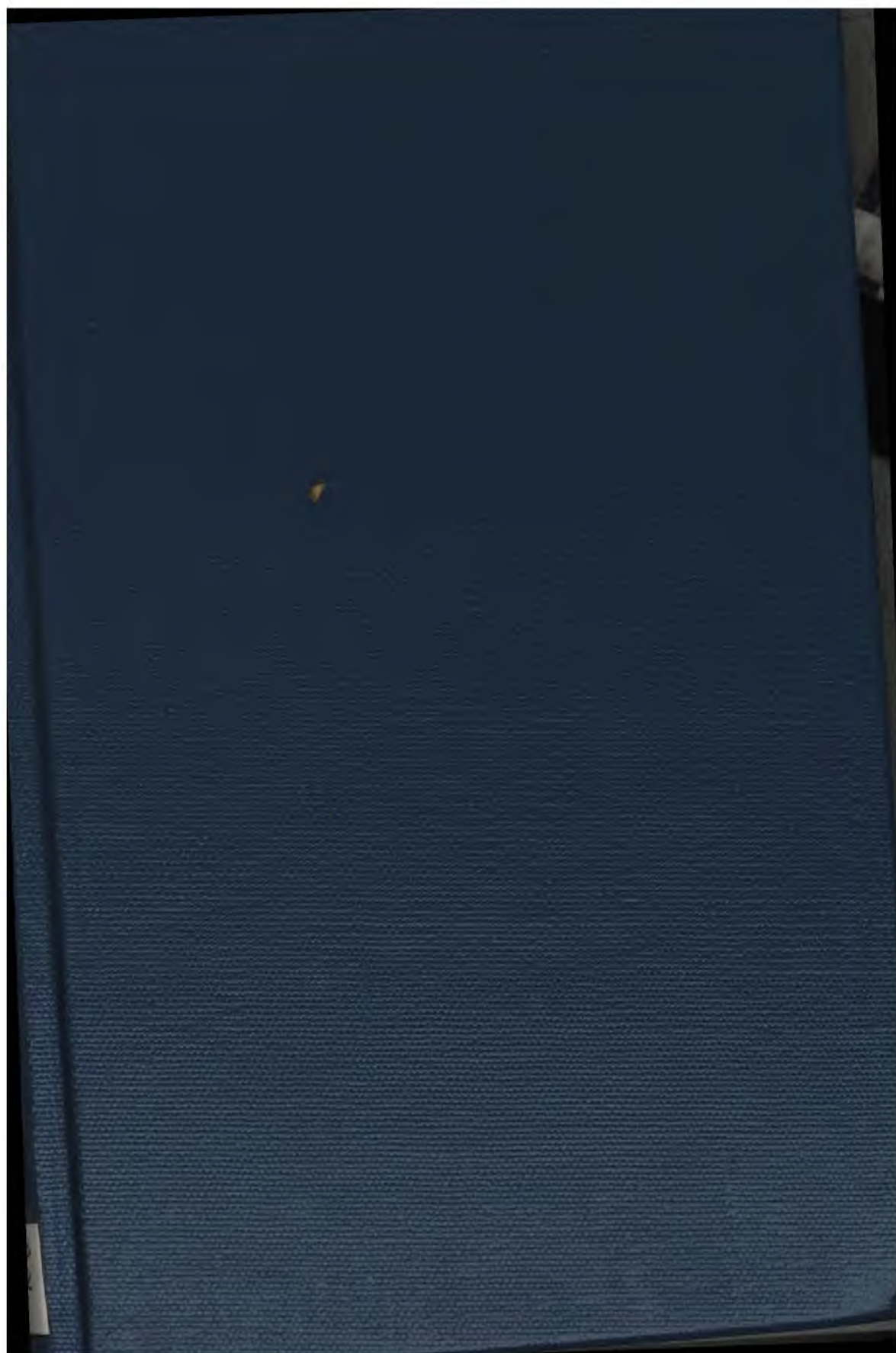
Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

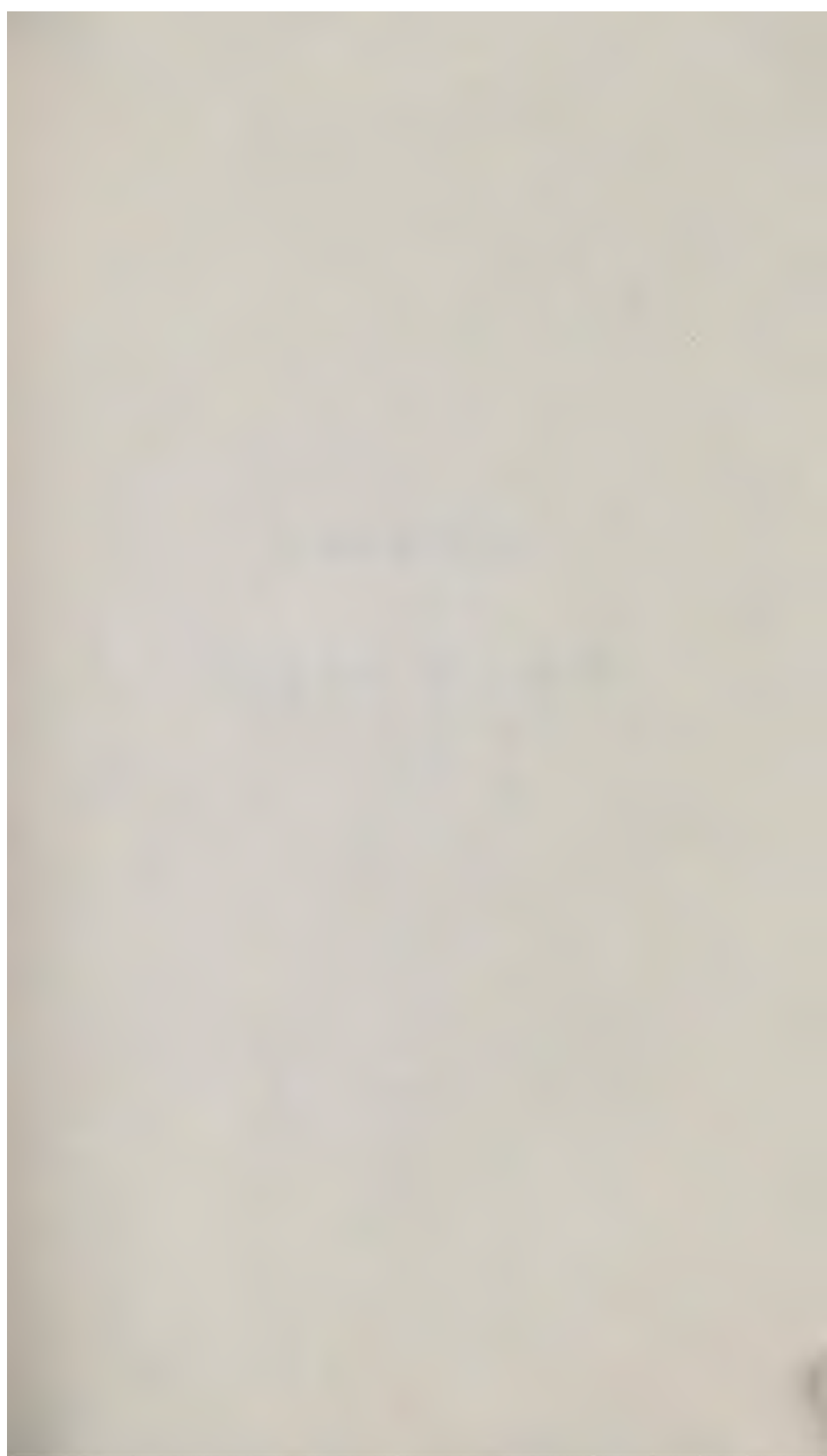
- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>









MEMOIRS
OF
MISS CARY,

&c. &c.

MEMOIRS
OF
MISS C. E. CARY,

(WRITTEN BY HERSELF)

WHO WAS RETAINED IN THE SERVICE OF
THE LATE QUEEN CAROLINE,

To fill the situation in HER MAJESTY'S Household next to
LADY ANNE HAMILTON;

CONTAINING

Interesting Anecdotes of some of the first Persons in this Country,

AND AN

Exposition of the Recrimination

Intended to have been brought forward by the late Queen's Party,
but which was prevented by Miss CARY;

With Proofs and Documents in support of the Facts.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY T. TRAVELLER,
PARK STREET, DORSET SQUARE.

1825.

MEMOIRS
OF
MISS CARY,

&c. &c.

ON my return to town with Lady Beechey, having left Mrs. S—— in care of the house at Brighton, the strongest complaints were made against me for my long silence to so many families; particularly that of the Marquis de Chabanes; with an earnest request, awaiting me also from the Marchioness of L——, at whose parties I had been several times, as the friend of the Marchioness de Dresney. This invitation admitted no refusal, as the Marchioness de Dresney, her daughter, and her nephew, had returned to town from Bury St. Edmunds; and as the Duke de Chartres the French Ambassador, and other foreign Ambassadors,

sadors and persons of distinction, were to be there. It was rumoured, that I was the intended of the Marchioness's nephew, the son of the Marquis de Riviere, although I never thought of him in that light, any more than of the various exalted characters who had offered their hand, whose names I must here omit. But, so great was the respect I had met with, and the friendship that subsisted between me and some of those families, whom I had been so long in the habit of meeting there; that, although I wished to decline, I could not put off the engagement.

I had not been long at the Marchioness's house, when the Duke de Chartres, and many distinguished persons arrived. I saw amidst the various introductions, that I was particularly noticed and talked of, when I, with the Marchioness's nephew, led off the dance. I always preferred to walk through dances in general, owing to a weakness and shortness in one side, which has ever obliged me to wear an inch and a half of cork in one shoe. On this account, when abroad, and in the different schools where I had been, I was taught

more the graceful walk in dance, than any other display, although I had been in the habit of taking a part in all dancing parties ; nor did I feel the slightest inconvenience, and I have led off dances or waltzes without its having been noticed ; the defect was so trifling, that I required the slightest aid from art from the cork shoe, which I always wear. I mention this circumstance, because it afterwards gave rise to my having been represented as a female of the name of Cary, who was a well known character in Hyde Park, and in Dublin, and from living with more than one person of distinction in London. This woman, it appears, had turned feet, and on that account, always rode on horseback. This afforded in 1816, the means of gratifying a disappointed and a premeditated revenge ; and it was then ingeniously circulated, that I was one or other of those females, of whom I know no more than has already been before the world. It appears there were no less than four of them ; one with Wellesley Pole, who, I understand is the one who was prosecuted in 1822, and for whom I was misrepresented ; though in my life, I never

saw her, nor ever exchanged a word with Wellesley Pole.

With those females I should not interfere; but since my alleged crime was, having preferred integrity in obscurity, and for a time in poverty, rather than fortune with vice; my name answered all that premeditated plans could desire; and after the death of Mr. Monk, Sir Richard Croft, and others, it was ingeniously circulated, that I had originally been in the lowest situations. My acquaintance, and the constant invitation I gave the Marchioness, her daughter, and her nephew, whom I generally selected as my escort, created so much enmity and jealousy, that it was often hinted that I preferred constantly inviting strangers, than those connected with my own family. How far could I own that family? I shall only say, that the Marquis of Hertford's proofs of the conduct of exalted ladies, alienated my heart wholly from those whom I considered as friends; but I was young and inexperienced. I knew not the heart of man, nor of woman.

Full of the natural ideas of a young mind, my received prejudices were firm when once impressed, and I could not form my face to smile, and admire in the shape of woman, all that was to be admitted and considered as perfection. This I once thought of some of my friends; but that thought the Marquis destroyed, and disgust was all that remained. Why then, I thought, should I carry that to the face of those whom I once thought so perfect? I will estrange myself from them, and they shall not know the cause; for of all in this world, the woman lost to virtue, I detest. I pity the unfortunate, since I am well aware, that the most correct of women may be entrapped by the artifice of man; but she who violates the sacred ties of God, of marriage, and of law, is despicable. I do not here reflect upon any of those whose conduct degrades them. Let them rest cut off from the society of the good; but those whose evil minds forsake the maxims of education, and all considerations of the best examples; let them, however sheltered by the protecting name or sounding title, let them be certain, that some chain, however secretly

less haste to speak with me. He was admitted; the purport of his visit was, to request the loan of £1,000; that he should be ruined for ever, unless I could assist him. I told him, I had not £300 in the house, and should have payments to make to my trades-people at Brighton. He offered the lease of his house and some furniture, to secure the payment, adding, that it was a house, which would of all others, suit me. Upon my asking him what I could possibly do with it, he still urged that it was so fit for me, that he hoped I would consider of it, and let him know. He did not require money, my name was equal to any money, and he could meet his payments in a month. He urged, in such a manner, that I accepted £800 for him that day. Will you think, he still said, about my house? and will you write to me from Brighton, to let me know the result? I was so anxious to get rid of him, and my carriage was at the door, that I said, I will let you know. When? say, on Thursday? Very well,

On Thursday I wrote from Brighton, telling him I should have nothing to do with his house;

but this gentleman, who afterwards proved to have been one of Mr. Sloper's party, pretended that he did not receive my letter, and waited on me at Brighton the next day, with the assignment of the house and lease for the £800, which he had received. Upon my having expressed my surprise and indignation, he declared he had not received the letter, and he thought Miss Cary had too much honour to break her word. This was said before friends of mine at Brighton, which seemed to place me in a light, as if I had intended to sign the agreement.

•As soon as I returned to London I sent for a house-agent, who valued it at about £300, with the lease. I then authorised him to offer Mr. S—— £200, which I would instantly pay, and to take back his house which I had only that day seen. But his reply was, he wanted Miss Cary for a tenant, and he should not relinquish the engagement. The house was shut up, and I cared not what would become of it. I expected so great a reprimand from Mr. Monk, on his return, for having been cheated into the purchase of what I never

once thought of, that I wished the house far enough. I was obliged to seek quiet at Brighton, though that was now equally impossible to find there.

On my return to Brighton, I was requested by Lady Beechey to take Mr. Spencer with me, as I had a Lady who accompanied me; I did so. Mr. Spencer was paying his addresses to Miss Paten, the daughter of the Admiral, an amiable young lady; she used to visit me there. For many years previous, I had been at Brighton, for all my vacation used to be passed there. My acquaintances were so numerous there, that I formed a little tranquil retirement, as in London.

For a length of time a Mr. P—— of the Barrack-office, Spring-gardens, was solicitous of proffering his services as agent, or in any capacity. From the respectable situation he held, I had left the bills I had of Walduck's and of Mr. Monk's in his hands. That gentleman, under the semblance of discounting them, to oblige me, thought proper to send me £70 out of the amount he

had discounted ; and shortly after I heard he was in the rules of the King's Bench.

Before I left town for Brighton, a Mrs. Symmons, of Baker-street, applied to me. Her husband was arrested ; I had no money in the house. A Mr. Sowerby, whom she sent, said, Madam, your name is always money, any bill, with your name to it, I will immediately cash. He urged the distress of Mrs. Symmons, of whom I had no other knowledge than having dined at her house with a young lady and her mother, the former a school-fellow of mine. I gave a £200 bill of Walduck's, desiring him to give Mrs. Symmons £50, which she faithfully engaged to repay, and to send the rest of the money after me to Brighton, in a few days. From Brighton I wrote to Mr. P—— for the bills in his care, and which he informed me, before I left town, were necessary to be sent for a renewal, on account of their dates ; not having been made payable at Mr. Monk's residence. I therefore drew fresh bills, which were sent for acceptance to Ireland, and that day week Mr. Monk returned.

As I had authorised, the bills were paid away to the person of the name of Sowerby, sent by Mrs. Symmons. I omitted to send the money to Brighton till some important call required my presence in town; then the money was paid me, and all I could recover of the bills was £200, which I desired might be discounted by the same person, a man of the name of Jones, who cashed the bill of Walduck's, on my account, without even enquiring who he was. The bill accepted by Mr. Monk, was left in his hands, on my leaving town for Brighton; those of the same acceptance which Mr. A—— discounted on my account, after they had been presented at Mr. Monk's and dishonoured, he deducted the amount of them from what money he had of mine in his hands, and the difference I sent him, as he told me he would not discount them on Mr. Monk's engagement; therefore, sooner than break my word, I paid the bills, except the £200 which were in the hands of Mr. Jones. I returned to Brighton, and from thence I wrote fully to Mr. Monk, stating, that I should shortly want some money. About a fortnight after this one of the party who engaged to lend the money, waited on

me at Brighton. I urged to have £1,000; he paid me £500, as he said, on account of Mr. Monk, to take up the bills; and engaging to advance £10,000 in part of the £60,000, to be paid at the expiration of six months. I wrote again to Mr. Monk, but received no reply.

The following week I received a letter from Lord Charlemont, in answer to one I wrote. In that letter his Lordship informed me, that I should never more see my friend and protector Harry Monk, he had been given over for several days, and could not live much longer. Alas! he was as kind-hearted a man as ever lived, he said, and you will experience a severe loss in that of his kindness and protection. This is an extract of his Lordship's letter; to the same effect, though not in the same words, that morning I received a letter from Lord Arran, Lady Elizabeth's brother, who was at the Pavilion; and I daily received a letter from him until the fatal news arrived that he was no more. This was a blow of fate—I instantly resigned my house.

I wrote to the Pulteney hotel, desiring apart-

ments to be ready for me that night. I paid up my bills at Brighton, and on my arrival, the same evening, at the Pulteney, I entirely secluded myself until my mourning should be ready. The Marchioness and her daughter were at Bury St. Edmunds; but her nephew was in town. From them, and hundreds of others, letters of condolence, crowded upon me. The Marquis's nephew was urged by the Marchioness to shew me every attention; indeed, the intimation was not wanting, for he considered the unfortunate occurrence a favourable opportunity of offering his hand, though, in that light, I thought not of him. The relations of Lady Elizabeth, were often with me, still no means seemed left me, of knowing any thing relative to my affairs. I determined to wait Lady Elizabeth's return, and remained silent; indeed I had nothing to say. The fatal stroke came at once, and so final and complicated, that I had nothing left.

Another of the party to whom I had signed the securities, waited on me, acquainting me that on account of the death of Mr. Monk, I was

liable to the securities ; but, that if I would agree to pay £30,000 in part, they would wait fourteen years for the difference ; and therefore, my signing a new deed was indispensable. I agreed to do so, as soon as the money was paid, finding that it was the only means of preventing their proceeding immediately against me. And finding that I would not sign any other deed until the money was paid, they engaged it should be done in a few months.

My address at the Pulteney soon became publicly known, for I had been residing there several weeks. I was unavoidably obliged at last to give parties, which I did, sometimes to the number of sixty. This was attended with great expence, so that on the morning of my last payment to Mr. Escudier of £70, I was £260 in his debt. The day of my arrest was then near, and to avoid such annoyance and expence, the following week, I left the Pulteney for private lodgings. Amongst the characters who sought access to my acquaintance, was Mrs. Goldsmidt. She had heard that I wanted a companion ; she wished to recommend one, to be considered as one of my acquaintances. I sent

her and family invitations, and they often dined with me amongst the circle of my friends.

The singularity of some of the characters at the Pulteney, form perhaps some of the most extraordinary occurrences of this history. The son of the Marquis de Riviere, because of his having generally attended me, and who was as a companion to me at the Pulteney, created so great a jealousy, that the following scheme was laid to criminate him, or to prejudice me against him. The relations of Lady Elizabeth introduced an elegant looking young man, of the name of K——, who, I was informed, was shortly to be married to the sister of the Marquis of Lansdowne. No doubt, they had been imposed on, as I had been by the gentleman. I told them, they were at liberty to bring him along with them, and I introduced him to some of the first characters. I used to wear a diamond ring of great value upon my little finger, and one evening, the ladies agreed to play in turn, while others danced. I generally had some first-rate professional players, whenever I gave any particular party; and for their accommodation, I had always a harp and piano forte

for use, which were hired. When it came to my turn to play, I pulled off the ring, because of its size, and laid it with my glove upon the piano forte. After the dance was finished, another lady succeeded, and some one led me to dance. When I took up my glove, the ring was not there: no gentleman was near me while I played, except Mr. K——, who seemed to keep close to me, and one or two of the ladies stood by him. I turned round to him, concealing my indignation at the unwarrantable freedom of a stranger; and I said, Mr. K——, I shall thank you for my ring. Mr. K—— bowed, and smilingly said, if I were fortunate enough to have your ring, I would take care and treasure it.

Seeing that some of the gentlemen present looked seriously at me, I turned away, determined to forbid the gentleman's future visits; and therefore, I called the ladies who had introduced him, and desired them to get my ring; still it passed on till after supper, and the carriages were at the door, when, as the gentleman was going, I again asked him for my ring. He smiled, bowed, and led the

ladies arm-in-arm away. I wrote the next day to their mother acquainting her, and desiring that my ring should be returned. But I received a letter from the gentleman, alleging that a ring of that importance, was a desirable matter no doubt to the son of the Marquis de R——, who wished to make a dashing appearance with very little means. I was so convinced of the villainy of the character who acted such a part, that I instantly called on every one to whom I had introduced Mr. K——; and having told them the act, I felt it a duty incumbent on me to caution them against him; and some time after he was taken up at Lady Jersey's, having been caught in the act of stealing a silver inkstand. My having forbidden the visits of that gentleman seemed to create still greater enmity. The next day, I heard it named, that different persons who were not there that night, were mentioned; particularly the Earl of B——, and a Mr. S——, who were either taken for him, or represented to be the persons, the reasons for which I could never learn.

I never owed a tradesman's bill beyond the quar-

ter; and so fully was I occupied in the world, that I had no time for thought. While at Brighton, I was urged to conclude an agreement with Sir William W——, for his house in Norfolk-street, Park-lane, which had been then ready for me to take possession. I ordered linen; the house contained every other article. The linen was sent to the Pulteney, and the following week was fixed on for my entrance. The party who wished me to sign the securities, engaged to pay a part of the money the next month. I then paid Escudier the last £70 I had to spare; in the meantime, the agent at Brighton, who had the care of the house, into the purchase of which I was entrapped, recommended that I should sell the house; and, in his great readiness to oblige me, offered to lend me £100 on it, and on my own security. He had the house and lease for weeks before in his hands. This gentleman seemed so honest and upright, that I often sent him upon many matters of business. This £100 he paid me, and I was afterwards told, that he intended to cheat me, and for that purpose had given the £100. I told him, I would rather

pay back the money, than sell the house to a disadvantage, and there the matter rested.

One day I gave him some diamonds to take to Messrs. Turner in Bond-street, which I had hired for a lady; as I had credit to any amount at their house, having paid them considerable sums of money during a period of some years. The diamonds were worth £60; when they were sent I was at liberty to pay the value or the hire; but I returned them, and with them a gold chain of great value, which I had paid for a little time before, requesting to have the clasp mended. The letter to Messrs. Turner, and the things, I requested Mr. Palmer, the house-agent mentioned, who lived at the corner of Wimpole-street, to deliver to Messrs. Turner. I saw him the next day, and he said it is all right; and the things I left safe. I thought no more of the matter, till a week after Messrs. Turner sent a bill of the amount due for the diamonds, of £60. Upon receiving this, Mr. Palmer was in the house, and I asked him what he did with the letter and parcel to Messrs. Turner. He said he had them,

and would keep them till the £100 was paid. I ordered him, in case Mr. F—— refused still to take back his house, to sell it. I expressed my indignation at this act, and went immediately to Mr. R——, of Cary-street, a professional gentleman, who had interested himself on many occasions to oblige me, and he immediately forced Mr. Palmer to deliver up the diamonds, which I returned to Messrs. Turner.

Walduck's bill, in the hands of Mr. Jones, became due, and, as usual, he called on me for a new bill. I had pledged myself never to have any farther transactions with a man who had proved so devoid of principle, as the transaction of the bonds proved. He then informed me that Mr. Monk's bill should be held as security, till paid. Mr. Monk was dead, and the bill was over due. Walduck, to answer his own ends, had privately circulated that I intended to marry him, which, as soon as the intelligence was conveyed to me, that he had said, in confidence, that I would marry him, I saw still more into his character. And scarcely had this intelligence been conveyed to me,

before he planned, with some others, as wicked as himself, the means of forcing me to marry him, as he imagined. I then discovered that Mr. Thomas, the money-lender, was one of the party in the affair of the bonds; and that, instead of the £1,000 stock having been sold out of a sister's property, it was such persons as these who planned the whole business.

One morning, while engaged with some persons in the drawing-room, the servant entered, stating, that two gentlemen wished to see me upon urgent business. They were admitted, and from their appearance I could not imagine what they could want. There were other ladies and gentlemen in the room. Miss Cary? said one. I am Miss Cary, Sir, what is your business? We have a demand on you for the late Colonel Monk. Well then, you might have sent word what your business was, as I am not going to pay any demand on his account; go to his executors. We have nothing to do with his executors. Well, then, I have nothing to do with his debts. I saw they still remained—you may go, I said. We cannot go, Madam, said

one of them, I am an officer. You an officer? in the army? and I looked at him with indignation for presuming to stand in my presence, after I had given him his answer. But this was the first occurrence of persons of the hardened iron race of John Doe and Richard Roe I had ever met with. I was not aware that the traffic of human misery was the trade of those men.

The law of arrest is a kind of slave-trade, by which the honest, the delicate, the timid, like the fraudulent and unprincipled, are dragged alike; then rapine, extortion, ruin, and misery, follow, while these wretches, in aid of the lawyers, cling together to wring the last pound from their unwary victims. Thus, I was arrested by one of those, who were hardened in the practice of feeding on human misery. What then, I said, are you an officer in the Navy? No, he savagely replied, I am a Sheriff's officer. And what is a Sheriff's officer? I asked. You must come with me. Go with you! I said, and eyed him with horror. Yes. Where should I go to? A house where we take people

to. The horrid idea that I should be put to death, or the like, immediately took possession of my mind, and the savage appearance of the men added to the supposition. Death I had resolved to choose in preference,

Some friends who were in the room stood up, they knew what the nature of a Sheriff's officer was; but my mind was possessed of too much horror to listen or hear more—I had heard enough—and, as if the greatest danger inspired the greatest presence of mind, I rang the bell for Escudier, the landlord. Some friends, who were there, said, we shall give bail. No! I shall take no bail here, was the reply. The lady must come with me. Then, I mentally thought, I shall resign myself to death, before I go with you. The idea that some of my former persecutors had planned to secure me, rushed into my mind. I looked round the room as if to see if any means of escape remained. I surveyed towards the door; I saw the key on the other side. It is well! I thought, and courage succeeded fear. With composure, I rang for my

maid. One of the officers said, you must not leave the room. Very well, I said. Smith, fetch my pelisse and boots. The servant fetched both; she helped me on with my pelisse. I stood near the door, as if for her to pull on my boots. The officer turned away. I instantly slipped out, I locked the door and took the key with me. Running down stairs, a washerwoman and an immense bundle of clothes were precipitated to the bottom of the landing. I had no time to wait to help her up. I turned the first passage, and finding a door open I entered, and having locked the door I found myself amidst waistcoats, slippers, &c. and on the opposite side were an equal proportion of petticoats, gowns, and ladies' dresses. I had not been many minutes there before a lady entered through an opposite door; she screamed at sight of me, and her scream soon brought her maid, and both frightened me more than I had been before. They looked at a watch, and the things around, as if they thought a thief was there. I then spoke: I said, I live in the house, I am Miss Cary; allow me to remain awhile. I then saw I was in the room with Mr.

and Mrs. Manners Sutton, who were residing at the Pulteney. The lady withdrew; and considering myself unsafe, I listened, and went directly through a long passage which led to the rooms upon the ground floor, and the first I entered was Mrs. Escudier's. She immediately locked the door, and bade me remain quiet; she then went up stairs into their public apartments. The carriage that was at the door drove off, while the officers, who were locked in, considered me beyond recall.

While they were forcing the doors one way, Escudier, and my friends, were forcing it the opposite way; the doors in that house are very strong. In the meantime, finding their strength unequal to the force of the door, one of them turned round and seeing the balcony window opened, and that they might have passed along it to the next drawing-room, they began to exclaim against Mr. Escudier, and even threatened him for having aided my escape. As soon as they were gone, apartments were given to me, in a more private part of the house; and amongst other acquaintances, Sir Lumley Skeffing-

ton, and his relation, Miss Farrell, were two I respected very much, more as friends to be relied on, than in any other sense,

The Baronet often joined my party, and it was at his house about this time, that I met Mr. Penn, who paid me more respect in my downfall, than many of my older acquaintances. Sir Lumley Skeffington, and the son of the Marquis de Riviere, having so often met, they were upon the best terms. I consulted them, and they called in the aid of Esendier's advice; when it was considered unavoidably necessary that I should remove to private lodgings. The house was watched so, that for four or five days, it was not advisable to attempt to stir; therefore, a servant was sent to take lodgings, but that was also considered equally impolitic. No alternative was left then, but for me to go away from the house, and to remain with some friend. We agreed the next day, to take a coach and a lady with me, as if I had arrived in town, and to take lodgings in another name. I was, therefore, directed to send to the house of some friends, all that I should want for use.

Concluding that ~~a few months~~ seclusion would be necessary, I ordered sufficient of my clothes to be packed up, with some books, ready; as I knew that all carriages and coaches to and from the house, were watched. Sowerby, who, as upholsterer, had so faithfully offered his services upon any occasion, proposed, whenever I should remove to my new house, to carry every thing I wanted in a caravan, which he kept for that purpose. I sent for him, thinking it the most effectual way, and that my servants could fetch from his house any thing I wanted. I was positively told, that every thing at the Pulteney, in all probability, would be seized, and therefore, I had better cause every thing of value to be removed. My clothes and trinkets were all I had of importance there: the piano forte and harp were hired. I desired Sowerby to take them to the owners, and I gave the linen and table linen which were worth £800, in charge to Mr. Escudier, adding, that it was not paid for; therefore, he was to take care of it, as I relied upon the payment of the balance of the £60,000 in the following month.

29

Sowerby, instead of carrying the instruments to the owners, took them to his own house with my things. He went to Walduck, and they concerted together, not only to keep the instruments, but to put Sowerby's name upon Walduck's bill, which was left unpaid by him in the hands of Mr. Jones. Sowerby made the pretext, that as he got the bill discounted, Mr. Jones looked to him for the payment. It was, therefore, planned to arrest me upon Mr. Monk's bill, and to arrest Sowerby upon one of Walduck's bills, for the purpose of extorting money from me. The next morning after Sowerby had removed my things, he called apparently agitated, and told me, that he had been arrested upon Walduck's bill; that he had procured friends to bail it, and that his time and expences were worth £20. I gave him £20, and asked him if he had delivered the instruments to the owners? He said he had safely done so.

He had not left the house an hour, when a man knocked at the private door, and said, that Mr. Sowerby sent him with the paper, which he

forgot to give me. The servant entered: a man without being perceived, followed the servant, and was at the door when he opened it. This was an arrest upon Mr. Monk's acceptance. The officer engaged that if I paid his expences, and made amends, he would be silent. I sent then for Walduck to bail the debt, because it was through his not having paid his bill, that Mr. Monk's bill was withheld; as I never had any money for it. Walduck bailed the arrest which was the exact amount of his bill. I gave the officers £10, besides their expences, in consideration of keeping the secret that I was at the Pulteney, and they were very well contented. Walduck and others were in my room, where I had been sitting writing. The keys were in the table drawer at which I sat; that drawer contained my letters, papers, the checks of my bankers, with all bills paid by them, of which every quarter I used to have them returned, with my account of all money paid by them for me.

While I was in the adjacent room, Walduck took from my drawers various letters, papers, and checks; and some of Mr. Monk's bills, receipted

by my bankers, and returned by them amongst others. There were £600 of the acceptances of a Colonel Wright, who was introduced to me by Mr. Monk one day, as I was driving through St. James's-street. This Colonel Wright shortly after introduced a brother of his to me. I had a very short acquaintance with them, when the Colonel called on me at Brighton, and desired my recency in an instance, in which he was going to request my friendship. He stated, that he had embezzled some money, which would be the ruin of his character and income, in fact, of every thing. He had been able to raise £2,000, but still was deficient by £600. That he and his brother would give me their security. The urgency and importance of the request, had induced me many months previous to the circumstances alluded to, to lend him the money, and I declined accepting any security then; till he, shortly afterwards informed me, that as he was going to the Continent, he wished me to draw upon him for the amount, which he would remit. The bills were drawn, and afterwards accepted by him. I never used them, my indorsement even was not upon them. These

bills Walduck stole with many others; and if my life were the forfeit, I could not tell what became of them, or of the papers; till two years after, Walduck produced them in court against me, stating, that I had received money and value upon them. I then recollected, that the contents of my drawers had been plundered, but by whom I knew not; and I stated the same to the court. The counsel against me, Mr. Pollock, examined the bills, upon which there was not even my indorsement. The matter was so far investigated, that the officer who arrested me, who was then in court, stated, that Walduck had desired him to take the bills; but that upon his refusing to do so, Walduck himself took them, and put them into his pocket.

Almost immediately after this arrest, either the acceptance in the hands of Mr. Jones, or those stolen from my drawer, were presented to some persons concerned for Mr. Monk's affairs. They apprised Lady Elizabeth of it, who wrote without having even seen them, (which letter was given to me by a Mr. H——) to instruct her lawyers

to set down the bills as forgeries. Upon this intelligence, I was shocked at the horrid idea, which if not premeditated, could not have been determined on; as Mr. H——, in whose hands the bills were, had not shewn them; but had written himself to Lady Elizabeth to acquaint her, that he was the holder of an acceptance of the late Mr. Monk. Upon the receipt of his letter, she wrote desiring him to prosecute me for a forgery. Mr. H——, who was till then an inveterate creditor, instead of doing as she advised him, gave me the letter, and at the same time, his full opinion that if the accusation had not been previously meditated, Lady Elizabeth could not have advised so horrid a step, upon an acceptance which she could not have seen. As she was then in Ireland, and the bill in England, I was so petrified at this transaction, that in the presence of some friends, I said, Good God! if I were capable of forging, who that ever saw my writing, however disguised, could mistake it? There were some small eighteen penny stamps on the table, to be filled up for some tradesmen, who had called on me for bills.

Let me try if I could forge, I said, and across two small bills I tried to imitate Colonel Wright's hand, which were the first I took. A bill drawn for £15, and another for £40, I took up and wrote upon them, and handed them round. There is a specimen, I said, of my forging. Upon the one for £15, I wrote accepted, and on the other £40, I wrote Colonel Wright's name; after I had done so, I said, I will shew Mr. A—— when he calls, what a forger I am, and these two bills laid upon the table. The servants, when the cloth was preparing, put, as was usual with them, all the papers in a heap upon the table: and I generally, when going out, used to put all papers into the drawer in a careless manner. By these means, the two stamps were amongst my letters, bills, and papers, in the drawer, and Walduck carried away all that was in it; these stamps which evidently bore my hand-writing, and of which I never once more thought.

The horrid idea of Lady Elizabeth in its worst form was then before me; and is this the woman,

I thought, to whom I was to look up as to a parent! This is an incredible act, and from her too! I will be patient, however, under all circumstances. Colonel Wright was not known, nor his address. It was then concluded, that Mr. W—— who attended me to Cheltenham, was the person, though the latter was not worth £50, yet they set it down that he was the man. But the christian name was different; they could not ascertain who it was, and when I found the robbery committed, I was determined they should not know more than what they conjectured, until two years after, in a public court, I gave the particulars, upon which the parties were hissed out.

Amongst the various papers taken from my drawer, was the copy of an agreement given by Mr. Monk, in which he promised, jointly with his own, the security of Lord Charlemont. The proposed agreement when filled up, was taken by Mr. Monk for the purpose of signing it, but weeks had passed, still the proposed signatures were delayed; nor did I ever receive the agreement back from Mr. Monk. The party who possessed them-

selves of all the papers in my drawers, applied to every one whose letters or names they found, without giving me the slightest intimation. Amongst others, Lord Charlemont was called upon, as if he were a party in my affairs.

The day after my arrest upon Mr. Monk's bill, was fixed for my departure. Sir Lumley Skeffington, Miss Farrell, his relation, and the Marchioness's nephew, were the only persons to dine with me; and after dinner, we were to be admitted by Escudier, through the private door into May Fair. After dinner it was settled that I should put on Miss Farrell's attire, and that she should be dressed in mine. This was done, and I walked out under the arm of the Baronet, leaving Miss Farrell to follow on the arm of the son of the Marquis de R———. The Baronet and I had scarcely proceeded a hundred yards, when Miss Farrell, on a sudden became so frightened, and crying out, Sir Lumley, Sir Lumley, they will take me, they will. The gentleman with whom she was, had never been in a scene of the kind, and was equally alarmed, so that we were obliged

to return back to pacify her. A coach waited for us at some distance, and the house of Mrs. S——, York-place, was fixed on for my abode that night. Upon our arrival, it was eleven o'clock, the officers had been there that afternoon looking for me, and insisting that I was there concealed, they had searched the house. Upon this intelligence, it was agreed that one of Mrs. S——'s daughters should go with me at day light to a distant part, to take a coach and lodgings. As soon as light appeared, we passed through the stables, at the rear of Mrs. S——'s house, into the Edgeware-road, where we took lodgings, as strangers just come to town, and referred to Mrs. S——, who was the relation of Lady Elizabeth.

As soon as I was settled in the Edgeware-road, I wrote to inform Miss Farrell where to find me. She and the nephew of the Marchioness frequently came, and passed much time with me. The Marquis of Hertford had left his card a few times at the Pulteney, still I never invited him to any of my parties. I ever determined that neither man nor woman should be encouraged in private, or in

public, whose want of rectitude was to be lamented, and while I felt conscious of what the conduct of the Marquis had been, I could not wish any one under that conviction, to mix with those acquaintances, whom I considered without fault. Escudier gave him my address, and he called, and to do him the justice, no man could be more friendly; but I had refused all acquaintance with him, and except a common-place letter, nothing farther had passed from the time of my having resided in Grosvenor-place. I declined any favour from the Marquis, though he seemed ready to serve me in any respect, and I promised to write if any particular occurrence happened. Some days after, I did so, but in my hurry, I sent wrong letters under wrong covers, and the letter intended for Walduck, was put under the Marquis's cover, while the Marquis's letter was directed to Walduck; by which means, the latter discovered my address, and the next day, he brought an officer to arrest me upon some of his own bills.

During this arrest, Walduck pulled out the ring, and left me no other choice than that of a prison.

With the just indignation this conduct deserved, I spurned the man. I sent for Mrs. Tilson, and she and a friend of hers, bailed the debt. Walduck then gave intimation to some of my just creditors, who called on me; and as they were unwilling to take any hostile steps, I pledged myself to them that I should be forthcoming. The next step that Walduck took, was to write anonymous letters to them to arrest me, stating, that I was arranging to set off to France with the son of the Marquis de R——, which letters they shewed me, and I saw they were in the disguised writing of Walduck. I then sent to the Petersburg Hotel, where I had resided once for a short time with my servants, and paid an enormous bill by check upon my bankers, which was at that time duly honoured, as I was then differently circumstanced. I informed the proprietor of my situation, who readily agreed to accommodate me with private rooms in his house, on condition that I was only to be seen or heard of there, to those persons to whom I had given my word, as Walduck threatened to put many other bills in force against me. It was policy to appear more civil to him, than his infa-

mous conduct merited, in consequence of which, he was allowed with my respectable creditors to call; and he soon made converts of the people of the house to his schemes. Of this I had intimation from Glover, my groom, who was more to be relied on, as he had been recommended by Sir Lumley Skeffington. He was always in the hotel, and therefore ready to watch all movements. He was even informed, that the first letters I had written, and which I had sealed with a seal belonging to the house, were so particular, that they had been opened at the bar, but whether the first letter I wrote escaped or not, he could not tell. It was to Sir Samuel Romilly, entreating his assistance; I had never seen or met with him, from the day I authorised Mr. Monk to obtain my papers.

The party who had engaged to lend the money, had put off advancing it, and situated as I was, I saw the necessity of the interference of some person of importance, on whose integrity I could rely. Sir Samuel's answer was kind, but regretting the impossibility of his interference, which under the

circumstances, he stated, could be of no avail. My letter I had sent to the post by a stranger. As soon as I found so much deception practised, and that they took down every name, either of those who called, or were mentioned in my letters, I sat down, and for many days I wrote letters to mislead them, in every instance possible; nor did I ever send any letter out, except through some one or other I knew. One of the money party called. My address was known to Escudier, and letters were left for those I wished to see; but as the address of Harvey and Jones, Pall Mall, was so familiar to me, I wrote, and urged the payment of the money, or the delivery up of the deeds. and that I would pay back the money they had lent me. They gave me no final reply, but said, they would let me know every particular in ten days. This promised every certainty, and my mind was at rest for the moment. I told several friends of mine, the practice in the house, of wishing to learn every particular. One of them, an Irish gentleman, begged of me, since it was evident they did not know who I was, except by name, nor the rank of life in which I moved, and as they were

so desirous of applying for intelligence, to allow him to give me the address of a person of my name, in a distant part of Ireland, and let them write there for information; it will be, he said, a most excellent joke. I took the address in a distant part of Ireland, and left it for them to see, but what occurred I could not learn.

The son of the Marchioness had offered his hand, and regardless of all circumstances, would have encountered every thing, but I refused; still it was urged, that I should think better of the matter under such circumstances; the house I was in I was confidently informed, belonged to the Marquis of Hertford. I sent for him; the purport of my interview, was to ask him if I should accept the hand of one, who had urged me under these circumstances. His reply was, if you marry I shall declare in a manner you will not like, that you have been in my power. I can place any woman beyond the power of the world, if she makes up her mind not to value what people say. I wish, therefore, not to be put out of my way; since to visit any woman in private, is attended with in-

convenience sometimes. It is well, my lord, I said, you have given your reply. Some one entered, and I bade the servant open the opposite door.

And thus it is! and so through life must I bear in silence the conduct of one man. Oh! how different my opinion of man is, to what it once was; yet this is but the peculiar act of one individual! and now I must finally destroy the hopes of the Marchioness, by a solemn refusal to her son. The cause shall rest for ever, I then thought; and with it, its consequent ills. Never shall I bring discredit upon an honest man! What avails innocence against power, for, as Shakspeare makes Angelo observe:—

“ My false o’erweighs your truth,
Then must your brother die.”

I must, therefore, be silent, and seek in myself support against all ills. Had I been in years to judge of the step I was urged to take, when I first wrote to the Marquis, his conduct might have been palliated by some excuse; but I was a child, I may say, I knew not the arts of the woman

who influenced me, nor the profligacy of the man. And though I have ever since avoided, and never, except in company of others, would see him, what avails it now? yet it is a secret satisfaction in my mind, which nothing earthly can destroy. Of what consequence is it then, what now befalls me? my prospects through life seem to hang upon this man's breath.

Why not write to the Duke, said Escudier, one day; he has had a long conversation with me about you, and he would do any thing in his power, if you would apply to him. I do assure you, he expressed himself most sincerely, and he is very sorry for your troubles. I thank him, I said, and I will consider.

How differently now, I thought, would be my strain of writing, compared with it at that time, when free from care, full of life and spirits, I used to write; but now that is passed, and some darkened spectre seems approaching, or some cloud from afar, which weighs me down. Each night I endeavoured to call forth to action the noblest, the firmest

energies of my mind. Great will be my trial, greater still my triumph; but when I thought of joy, the thought quickly vanished away. Few were guests of my table; Sir Lumley Skiffington seemed unalterable in friendship. I wrote to the Marchioness and refused her nephew, which called forth from his pen one of the finest letters, perhaps, ever read. It is amongst my papers, with many more of his, obtained by Knight.

I wrote to the Duke of —, my object was, by any possible means, to redeem my papers; but I soon after saw the fallacy of that hope, when those concerned would not, upon any payment, relinquish the settlements already made. My signature to another paper was all that was required, and they would then make the promised payment. I was therefore to call upon them, or I should be waited on; I chose the latter; and considering myself shortly to be in a state to disencumber myself, I rode out and seemed at rest.

One morning early, the party waited upon me, and stated the necessity of my signing a paper to

authorise them to raise the money. They informed me that the payment of it they expected, would be deferred to a distant period, if this were not done. To remove all delay I signed the paper, which I supposed to be a mere authority to borrow money for my use. When the party was going I asked what day I might expect them to pay the money; they were at the door, and the one looked at the other strangely, I thought they changed colour, looked at me, and saying in a few days, hurried out, and shut the door after them.

I knew not what it was that appeared to me from their manner, there was something, indeed, unpleasant and indescribable, still I thought it no more, possibly, than an awkwardness on their part. I banished it from my mind as much as possible, though their agitation and guilt seemed to shew itself, and in that state of feeling they seemed to have hurried away. Day succeeded day, still no one came at last. After having waited a fortnight, I wrote to Pall-Mall, the letter was answered: that it might be some months before any money could be raised. Enraged and disappointed, I wrote that I was ha-

rassed by my creditors. The next letter informed me that £46,000 of my securities stood against me, and when the amount of the bonds were paid, they would give up all they held of mine; till then, I could not command a shilling, and, if my rights were wholly and entirely sold, they would not pay off £46,000.

Thus I felt, as if in the midst of the roaring sea, which on a sudden rose to swallow me up in its furious waves. Whether the boards, on which I stood, were to open wide to sink me, or that the furious elements were ready to tear away the roof of the house which covered me, I knew not, I cared not. Like one who feels a fever in the brain, I walked, or talked. I scarcely knew day from night, scarcely friend from foe. To encumber others with my woes, were in vain. All those around me were mere acquaintances, while fortune smiled.

Sir Lumley was a man of fashion, and the language of care and business uncongenial to him as to others. I made up my mind to be silent;

overweighed with sorrow, let my heart break! Again I thought, do I stand in the world as I did in early age? All hope appeared to be torn away. Who, then, on fortune, would build their peace? On her fickle favours, that peace may in an hour vanish and expire. The world I then only felt and saw, had taken that attention from God, which in early life I used to pay. I then knew myself as the afflicted child, but still I felt the love of Providence. Now, then, I thought, has the Lord given me riches, honours, every thing, only to allow the world to alienate my mind from its early pursuits. I merit the blow, and I will try to bear it; the world, its vanities, its nonsense, its false friendship, all like broken reeds, were before my view. Still I had one consolation, that to the orphan, the aged, and the poor, of whatever situation, when their distress was known to me, my purse was ever readily opened, and for a thousand I had spent, I had given three away.

Lady Elizabeth's arrival was announced to me, and what, I thought, is to be expected from her? She, who would write such a letter, as she wrote

to Mr. H——. Like lightning a conviction flashed upon me, that the subject I was advised to write to her upon, by her friends, soon after the death of Mr. Monk, was premeditated, as her intimation was, to one of the creditors who waited on her, that she knew nothing of either bills or securities. At the earnest entreaties of those friends of Lady Elizabeth, I wrote as they dictated, on account of the bills, &c. adding, as they assured me, that she knew nothing of them, perhaps, that Mr. Monk was often ill-tempered and would tell her nothing. I said at the time to her friends, I would write any thing they wished. She is so good, so kind-hearted, said one, how can she enter into your situation, unless you do as we tell you. I wrote all they wished, and when any part appeared inconsistent, I refused to write; but was told, surely it is going to, I may say, one, who is as a mother.

Upon her arrival I found the said writing of mine handed over against me, and that she knew nothing of the transaction, except from the account I had given her. Upon receipt of this intelligence

I became enraged, and I saw the trap that had been laid for me. I wrote to her in all the violence of temper possible, upon which she wrote to me that she had appointed her cousin, Mr. Leslie Foster, to settle all differences between us, that whosoever Mr. Monk's accounts should be examined, T——— and A——— would pay any money that was just. Pay any money! I thought, am I brought to this, and could all the Monks and Gores be worth, pay me? No! never could their fortune, if that of both were given to me, equal the injury and wrong I sustain.

I tried to be calm till the appointed day, to see Mr. Foster; but impatient with rage and anxiety, I wrote to him, to know what settlement he was authorised to propose. His reply was, not to flatter myself with any settlement; that I might be thankful if the law did not take its course with regard to the forgeries. He would, however, call upon me the following morning. I wrote the reply this letter merited; he then sent a different kind of letter. After I had read it, I felt more calm, as that gentleman seemed to say, that acting up to

the instructions given by Lady Elizabeth, without any wish or inclination to enter into the justice, or injustice of the matter, he would call upon me, after which he would decline interfering in any way.

Of this letter, neither the cause, the beginning, nor the object, were known to those who stole it, with all my important papers and memorandums of every kind. Walduck, who took the letter, must have given it to those who had it for the express purpose of intimidating lady Elizabeth and Mr. Foster, as they went to the residence of both, without my knowledge; but the reception which it appeared they met with, did not prove very satisfactory.

When I was informed of this, I ordered the carriage, and went to call upon Mr. Foster, but that gentleman had left town that morning for Ireland, as Mr. Vansittart positively informed me, to whose house I was sent from the Exchequer, as the most likely place to find him, as Mr. Foster was Chan-

cellor of the Irish Exchequer, Mr. Vansittart of the English.

Amongst the various researches and applications which Walduck made, he went to Cheltenham, where he had heard Lord Charlemont was, and instead of taking the mere memorandum of the supposed agreement proposed by Mr. Monk, he wrote out a paper, and having affixed Lord Charlemont's name to it, as proposed by Mr. Monk, insinuated that his Lordship was either guardian to me, or trustee of my affairs. Thus, he intimidated, by every art, not only every friend of mine, but by various insinuations, Walduck reported that I had promised him marriage; and when he considered that every thing was done that could effectually prejudice my friends against me, he then informed me that he could command £10,000, which was at my service, if I would marry him; but, if I still refused he would spend the last shilling to persecute me. He was determined, he said, if I did not consent to marry him, to prevent any other person from so doing. For to the gates

of hell, he said, he would go, to obtain his object. And you may go as soon as you like, I replied, even with all the aid from thence; but your object you shall never gain.

Amongst the various papers stolen, there were three of Mr. Monk's bills receipted by Messrs. Austin, which, in the final close of my account that week, was sent to me with £10. The keeper of the hotel, apparently nervous, entered the room, and exclaiming, Madam! I happened to go into the area, where I found those bills.—How fortunate! he said. I have questioned the waiter, and he can only account for it, by supposing, that they were carried down in the table cloth; and do you know any thing, I said, of various other checks, letters, papers, &c. that have been taken? No, he said; observing that it was a pity I should not be more careful, and not to leave my drawers unlocked. I saw, and found, that all enquiries of the waiters failed, and it was in vain to make any disturbance about them, situated as I was.

The next day, Walduck waited on me, to in-

form me that Sowerby was going to sell the instruments for the hire of the room, in which they had stood for thirteen weeks; during which period, I considered they had been in the possession of the owners. He gave me to understand, also, that he and Sowerby, had a right to detain any property which was in my possession, whether mine or not, until the bill was paid, upon which I was formerly arrested. I was then informed, that, in a few days after I had left the Pulteney, Sowerby and Walduck had given notice to the owners of the instruments, that I had sold them; and it was consequently reported, that Mr. Michel, of Bond-street, or Messrs. Broadwood, had sent an officer to the Pulteney; but, that, having removed to private lodgings, my address was not known. The instant I ascertained this most infamous scheme, I sent to Messrs. Fielder and Bartley, solicitors, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square, whom I employed, and they compelled them to deliver the instruments to the owners, of whom for years previous, I used to have them, and with whom I was always regular in my payments. They regretted that such in-

famous characters should have committed such scandalous impositions.

Walduck still pretended regret, and offered to make any restitution in his power, and begged of all things I would see a friend of his, an attorney, who had got him through so many scrapes. He had been to T—— and A——, and they had engaged to pay Mr. Monk's acceptances, if he would bring an order from me. Though I knew this was false, as even his will had not been opened; still as the keeper of the hotel kept possession of £200 of the acceptances of Mr. Monk, so receipted, and and gave the other to Walduck, he said, that my name to his landlord would be always equal to Bank notes; that Mr. Monk's acceptance would bear interest, so that I was obliged to allow him to keep them. He requested I would give the said attorney a few lines to T—— and A——; the attorney wrote the few lines, which I signed, but which were afterwards converted into a power of attorney, to proceed against the estate of Mr. Monk.

I was not then aware of the extent of the deception, but quite determined in the next appointed interview with the lawyer, that if he questioned me, as to who I was, I would lead him and Walduck a dance, which I did: to persons and to a part of the world where I had never been. They followed up the pursuit of a person very different to me, whose name was given to me; but, in a little time they began to suspect, and the following plan was laid for me. Two of my most respectable creditors called on me, with a gentleman. They stated to me, that Lady Elizabeth had said, that she did not even know me, that I had formerly been a fruit girl, and that was all she knew. They represented themselves satisfied that there was neither cruelty nor injustice in Lady Elizabeth's conduct, and that I never had received any letters from her, or any of her family, Lord Arran, Lord Charlemont, or the many persons whom they named. I was, therefore, an impostor, and they requested that I would let them see, that they might be satisfied if I had any letters. I said it was a horrid light, in which Lady Elizabeth had placed me so unme-

ritedly. She had informed them, that I had lived in the house of the gardener, and had entered into their habits of life, while engaged there. I told them whatsoever duties those people imposed on me, with their own children, I could not be accountable for, as my friends had taken me away, as soon as they had discovered my abode and situation with them ; therefore, I was no fruit girl ; and I would shew them proof that all they had been told was false. If you doubt, I said, here is a note from Lady Elizabeth to me. I then opened a sealed packet, which contained letters and papers, written by the most exalted characters, to whom I was known, whose testimonials the papers bore. And amongst them were many of Lady Elizabeth's own letters, Lord Charlemont's, Lord Arran's, and particularly letters relating to the business, which the Duchess had put into the hands of Mr. P—— with his letters, of the greatest importance ; upon seeing them, they were so astonished, that they entreated of me to allow them to take them to a person of high rank, who was interested in the matter, and they all agreed to give me their written engagement to bring them back the next day. I had written a few days

previous to this, to Sir Richard Croft, when I found the situation I was placed in; and as I thought so highly of the gentlemen who called, I stated, that I would pay their demand; and, therefore, they had the signatures of Sir Richard Croft, as well as those of others.

The whole of the next day passed; and no one came. I sent to request the return of the papers, but the reply was, that they required the documents to substantiate the justice which I had refused to do to my creditors. They then gave me to understand, that I must charge Mr. Monk's estate, with the claims of one; and all other claims, upon the Duke of Devonshire's estates. That I was actually the daughter of the Duke of Devonshire, they were satisfied; that they had heard there was some great mystery about me. That it was evident, then, who I was; that Mr. Foster, the brother of the then Duchess of Devonshire, would not have been concerned in the settlement proposed by Lady Elizabeth, if that had not been the case. Her Ladyship, they knew, was first cousin to Lady Elizabeth Foster, and she had changed her son for the daughter of the

former Duchess, and that I had but lately been found selling fruit ; of this they were certain ; that it was clear, for they had frightened Mr. Foster away ; but they were not to be frightened. I was, therefore, to sign the power they wished, to recover my right, as they called it. I was then watched, and the next day, the officers were admitted to arrest me ; as, the more I protested against the falsehood of their assertions, and firm in refusing to sign any such power though threatened ; the less belief they seemed to have in my words ; till oppression and persecution of every kind, overwhelmed me within the walls of a prison, to which I rendered rather than be frightened into any power so demanded from me. I had seen some vicissitudes, but had never been within the walls of a prison, till I surrendered to the King's Bench. I had not been long there, ere private attacks in the public papers were made on the Duke of Devonshire, which I had not the power then to prevent, as I was wholly unconscious of any other cause, than the designs of persons who termed themselves creditors ; and from the circumstance of Mr. Foster's interference in this business.

I had not been long in the King's Bench, before I was informed that I had forged Mrs. Davis's name to a bill of Walduck's, which upon investigation, proved to have been an indorsement upon the back of Walduck's acceptance, which he urged that I should pay, to prevent prosecution. The bill was for £100, and this was a new system of scheming: as the bills signed by Mrs. Davis, and discounted by her bankers, with another, of her signature, at the same time, discounted by Morgan and Saunders, existed four months previous to the bill in question, which was given to be discounted when it was sent to me by Walduck, as usual, instead of money. It was sent to be discounted, to a person of the name of Davis, who paid it away; but it was afterwards returned, and it was therefore sent to me, when I came to town. I paid it away, and the name remained upon the bill, or Walduck, to whom I first sent it, put the name, or got some one to put the name upon the bill.

As soon as I ascertained this scheme, I detected

the effort, which prevented their attempts to get Mrs. Davis to pay it. The house, in the hands of Palmer the house-agent, was sold for £170, that gentleman deducting for his trouble. And Walduck sent a Sheriff's officer to obtain, as he said, an order, to remove to a broker's, what furniture remained unsold in the house; but that order was converted into a power to authorise him to take it in part-payment of his debt.

The next day mere accident brought a lady and gentleman from Bristol to call upon me, a Mr. and Mrs. Philips. Her father was then, and had been thirty years, collector of the Custom-house of Bristol. She was much shocked on hearing that I had fallen into Walduck's hands. She then told me that he had, by the like scheming, obtained a promise of marriage from a young lady of Bristol, that her parents had purchased him off with £16,000, that he had afterwards forged in Bristol, and was obliged to quit the town; that he was a known character, a complete swindler, and whenever he could get sufficient in debt to cheat

the public, he used to leave a bankrupt, and then remove to some unknown place.

Thus, the man or woman who once listens to the persuasions of trades-people, to borrow money, or allow themselves to be persuaded into debts they otherwise would never dream of, are sure to find that one half of them in London, are the greatest knaves that ever lived; but where they are honest and upright, there is not a more respectable character. How many obtain the name who do not possess the principle.

It is needless that I should state the horrors of my feelings, upon my first entrance into a prison. For days, and even some weeks, whatever was laid before me to eat I fancied that it smelled of poison. Disgusted on my first entrance, the fumes of porter and tobacco assailed me. Weak and agitated as I was, a more horrid sensation never arose in the human mind, than filled my mine that night. Though conducted to one of the best rooms, what fear! what terrors! assailed me. The dark shadow of the gloomy wall cast a dullness around

the place, which was faintly lighted by dim lamps ; and the pale moon—she alone seemed to look cheerfully on me, as if to say, like me, many are the clouds that obscure your brighter days. Still, like me, bear up ; lose not that lustre of mind which illuminates me in my course. I emerge from the passing clouds, and am myself still serene. But the clouds of my days, I thought, are now fixed immoveably over me.

I sat up all night by the window. The people, the place, I fancied were like inhabitants of another world, and in my conjecture of the inhabitants of the King's Bench, I was not mistaken, for they looked the living spectres of former beings, though not of another world. Such they appeared to me when broad day advanced ; and they, like bees from the bee-hives, began to spread over the square. A dark gloom sat upon many faces, where trouble was visible, while on some others was the remaining shade of vice and dissipation. They seemed to hover about, as if waiting for the ferryman of Styx to carry them lower than they were in this infernal abode.

As the marvellous always attended me wherever I went; the next day it was reported, that a lady was brought in of great beauty, and for no less a sum than 2,000,000 of money. Though this sum in part of payment of the national debt, would be somewhat considerable, I need not say, that in the King's Bench, as at the heiress at Cheltenham, there was scarcely a person, of young or old pretensions, who did not, like the fowls, pick up their feathers, smarting themselves either to write, or parade beneath my window, or on the opposite ground, to try to catch a view. Far different were the feelings this report and other annoyances excited in my mind. The advances of persons in prison—I conceived, there is horror in the thought! I know them not, I therefore said to my servants, whoever brings me a letter from any one in the place, I shall immediately dismiss.

Four or five letters, in the course of that morning, had been obtruded on me, from people I had never heard of. My mind and feelings were so harrowed up at the situation, that sleep had fled from my pillow; I fancied myself as if in a den of

robbers. Then beckoning care, and want, and all her train in visions, seemed hovering near, to seize upon their destined prey, while grim malice grinned horribly at the thought, that, now was the accumulating hour of revenge.

Miss Farrell and the nephew of the Marchioness altered not in their unremitting attentions. They daily came to dine with me. One of my servants entered one day, provoked to tears. I have been asked, Madam, she said, if the Marquis of Wellesley has been to see you since you came. Another, this morning, asked if Wellesley Pole visits you, adding, that you had spent the £10,000 Miss Tilney Long gave to Wellesley to get rid of Miss Cary; and one of the gentlemen said he would come and see you; but I told him he was telling lies, and that you knew nothing of such people.

Glover entered another day, Madam, I am so angry, I can hardly lay the cloth. What's the matter now, Glover? I went this morning, Madam, he said, as you desired me, to Jackson, about the casket.—What! he said, you are the lady's *valet*!

that is the Miss Cary, who lived with the Marquis of Wellesley, and Wellesley Pole, and six other Lords; and she used to gallop about in Hyde Park. I have seen her, she is a devil; but do you live with her? Glover felt his rising indignation could scarcely be smothered to silence, for he had been my groom for a time, and well knew that I never exhibited in Hyde Park on horseback; never, except, perhaps, when crossing the Park towards some country ride. Poor Glover was so mortified, that although he knew I was not the person, yet, the name and the attack was such, that he returned home, leaving Jackson and his concerns there.

So many other occurrences daily assailed my ears, that they threw me almost into a decline. My feelings were wounded at the injustice of those who should have attended to my welfare and the falsehoods that hourly broke in upon my peace. Every letter I received contained some conditional offers of friendship, or insulting allusion to persons of my name, whom I had never seen. With Wellesley Pole I never, in my life, exchanged a word, nor with the

Marquis Wellesley; therefore, although within my mind the conviction of what I was, existed, yet who can patiently bear, and not feel the wrongs heaped upon the unconscious, unwary mind, which a stranger to artifice, but following the bent of an open generous disposition, is sure to become the victim, at last, of design and premeditated plans. It reminds me of what Virgil says of Juno:—
 “What offended Deity could expose so good a mind to endure such ills? and that so much hatred should rest in the soul of woman.” I might say with him, in a soul I once thought celestial; but now, what a reverse; and thus this thought renews my grief like those of Æneas.

The mournful fate I was consigned to, and the ills I endured, produced, like the flower that bends beneath the pressure of the heavy rains, a lethargic incapability of exertion, and I had no power to call forth the energies of my mind. It seemed wholly lost, till those who saw that their plans bowed me down to silence, then roused it by their base attempts to crush me to subjection.

What, I thought, am I, who in former trials displayed so firm a fortitude, yet, not in such horrid ills as these? I was then free! With freedom, where the mind is at ease, though obliged to drink of the stream, to eat bread and cheese, to lie down contentedly in innocence, is far a happier state than his, who, amidst superfluities, drags on a life of pain. In bondage shall I tamely submit to all this? —No, I will assume a spirit which, heretofore I have not required. My former ills I brought upon myself, these I have not; but, though I am still to blame, how could it be otherwise? With little more than a child's experience, I have scarcely yet attained twenty-two. To that Being, who in every ill, has supported me, I turn, that is the power on whom I shall rely. Come what ills, what misfortunes may, my enemies shall find I will no longer sink beneath their weight; calmly I will bear, henceforth, all that may befall me.

Seven months had now passed in the most perfect captivity; no human being of the place had entered my room, though so great was the annoy-

ance I had to encounter, that when my servant dared not deliver any letter from people in the place to me, they used to be put under the door, and some mornings, as many as seven or eight. At last, the only remedy I could find, was to open them, and to throw them out upon the public parade, to let the neighbours of the writers see their epistles. This, for a time, put a stop to them; but, there were two: the one a genius in universal female correspondence. The effusive productions of this man's mind were peculiar to himself. He was not to be repelled either by contempt or refusal of his letters. He had a talent to bear up under every repulse. While Lord C——— more retiring, still unceasing to woo the reclusive object of his verse, sometimes, beneath my window used to wander to and fro, and to each refusal to every invitation, had the happy art of turning it in some way to amuse; and thus two beings who never exchanged a word, conversed on paper.

At No. 7, lives Miss Cary, whom he addressed with gallant views, but like others, his were foiled,

and upon a denial even of an interview, the following lines were sent, as was generally the case, upon all such denials, which were turned into verse or prose in his own favour.

"Then, Miss Cary, believe me, I beg and implore,
And acknowledge the kind invitation,
Had it been in my power, within the first hour,
I'd have seen you without prolongation.

"I'd have mounted the stair, with the speed of a hare,
I'd have tapped, not without hesitation,
And making my bow, I'd have paus'd and said,
Now's the time of my greatest probation.

"But if ink and a pen, had been found in my den,
I'd have offered at once my oblation,
I'd have said, dearest dear, we'll be safer far here
In my cell for an hour's flirtation.

"For, indeed, I am watched, and if I were caught,
I'd be held to the whole of the nation,
Though nothing should pass, with my worthy young lass,
Nothing else but what's called a flirtation."

A lady had given me a canary bird, and I began to tame it, that in time it became so familiar, that

it generally and regularly came daily to dine at the table with me, and I always kept some fine powdered biscuit for it. Incredible as it may be, my little dog, when I used to pay the bird great attention, would cry and fret when that notice was directed from itself. This bird, in particular, was so great a source of amusement to me, that when gloomy thoughts oppressed, with sudden flight it would perch before me, or upon my head or shoulder, and seemed like some winged seraph that called away my hourly attention from care; even this poor bird was, like me, destined to feel the ills of life.

Flying backwards and forwards one day, off my shoulder through the window to the pump, which was usual with it, some evil-minded person gave it a blow with a cane, and broke its leg; a man carried it up, and its leg was almost broken off. I immediately sent for the doctor, and had it cut off and dressed. My poor bird! its cries pierced my heart, more than any instance through life I had ever felt. I nursed it, and in a few days, it was able to perch upon one leg. It re-

covered, and became daily more interesting, so that in time, it accustomed itself to fly and hop about; and if I were ill, it used to come and perch upon my pillow, and would apparently seem sorrowful, nor could I drive it away. I often thought, if an aërial spirit could ever put on such a shape, it was that to chase away each ill. Some ladies came one day, and prevailed upon me for a few hours, to let them have it. I foolishly, though reluctantly, consented; but I never saw my bird after; and as Virgil states of the image, thence all my greater ills began. For it was concluded, that, when the image was stolen out of the sanctuary, all good vanished with it; so great was the faith placed upon it. It would seem, that I had almost fancied my bird in somewhat a similar light.

During this period, Sir Richard Croft had visited me twice, and with the kindest concern, promising to render me every service in his power, as soon as I should have attained twenty-three. He proffered me money, and insisted that whenever I should require it, I should call upon him. Sir Samuel Romilly, also, with no less concern, gave

his opinion, and promised his assistance to set aside the bonds I had signed, by which every power had been taken from me; but, after I had waited in durance, it was ascertained, that having renewed the bonds, and an assignment having been so obtained, neither law nor equity could extricate me from them. I had signed them without even knowing the nature of what I had put my hand to. In this misfortune, a gleam of hope was opened, to bear me up. Sir Richard, and other friends, would endeavour to obtain my redemption by amicable applications to those who were considered my friends, as the property I was annually to receive, was by an after settlement, made chargeable in the name of Cary; and as the daughter of Colonel and Lady Jane Cary, a transfer of property took place when I was a child, so that the sum so transmitted, should yield at the rate of £2,000 per annum, which sum was to be received as chargeable upon the estate of Colonel Cary; to make it appear that I was the daughter, or the adopted daughter of the Colonel.

To this end, various papers were placed in my hands relating to this, but of which I made on

other use, except allowing them to remain with all other papers of mine, till required of me, in Mr. Monk's hands, who was the relative of Lady Jane Cary, by the marriage of Lady Elizabeth's relation, between whom, and the husband of Lady Jane, an attachment took place during the life of that Lady, and which was said to have occasioned her death by a decline. Colonel Cary, so infatuated, resolved to marry her, sooner than lose the object, who wisely, but unjustly for the relatives of the Colonel, naturally expected on his demise, his paternal estate; but that Lady refused to marry him, unless he settled the whole estate of Hermitage upon her, which he did; then valued at about £16,000 a year; and thereby cut off all branches of his lawful heirs to this day. The Lady almost immediately after the marriage, set out to another part of the country, and he followed her to bring her back, and to know the cause of her conduct. She told him, that of all men, she hated him the most. In the first place, for his neglect of his former wife, Lady Jane; and secondly, for being such a fool, as to settle upon her his whole estate, he being then past sixty. What a lesson for others of such periods! For it

is said in Scripture, there is nothing, however concealed, that will not in time be revealed.

This is the power which Mr. Monk threatened over me, which he so often refused to explain, though it was so fully known to me; and thus I was held up as the daughter of those persons, from the evidence of certain papers which, when the party were all gone, answered a double end: as all parties knew Lady Jane never had a daughter, nor do I know whether she knew me. I remember, when a child, Colonel Cary, but that was all I could tell. They who could have seen me righted were gone, and those, against whose interest it was to know any thing of the circumstance of my being the reputed daughter of Colonel and Lady Jane, were unwilling to do it, from motives of private injustice and oppression. And like the manner in which my former obscurity of situation was ingeniously handed out, so as Lady Jane never had children, it answered a most effectual purpose. Thus to all I must, under these assertions, have appeared an impostor; and deprived of power, I was compelled to silence, under a conviction, that it was

one of those acts, sometimes done, which leaves the innocent and unwary without the means of any thing to say or do. Then in silence I bore so hard and premeditated a plan.

Hence, as from the celebrated characters of my name, whose conduct was notorious, before I entered the world, reports began widely to spread, on account of the great seclusion in which I had lived, as I was never seen in the King's Bench, except about six in the morning, when I used sometimes to walk. It was then concluded that I was one or other of those, whom I never saw: and thus small falsehoods are magnified into greater. The hope of obtaining redress on the grounds of the name under which settlements were made, as pertaining to Colonel and Lady Jane, was equally fruitless; still my friends seemed to share my feelings, by telling me that all hope was not endless, and earnestly requesting me to take the benefit of an Insolvent Act, which I always refused to do; until after the death of Sir Richard Croft, when I saw no other alternative.

After a lapse of seven or eight months, during which time I lived in this seclusion, or rather imprisonment, having closely confined myself to my room, I received a note from Lord Charlemont, which announced his departure; still I refused an interview. Almost immediately after this I was seized with a scarlet fever, and although a medical man of eminence was sent daily to attend me, there were very little hopes of my life.

From the first day I entered the prison the Marshal allowed me the privilege of my maid to be always with me; a privilege which, on account of my years, was granted. I was always accustomed to have a female attendant with me night and day, and in such a place, the propriety of it was more necessary than any where else. Mr. Pytches, the universal admirer, rather took advantage of this, and used to sit up for hours with my servant in my room. The latter, for ten days, never laid down upon a bed; and during a great part of my illness I was unable to speak, and insensible. At last, I began to recover, and with the aid of the able medical adviser my life unfortu-

nately, or fortunately was preserved Upon my recovering, I expressed my obligation to Mr. Pytches for his attention ; and however ridiculous he appeared before, I discovered a goodness of heart, which compensated for his many more glaring follies. His circumstances, I heard, were indifferent, and on that account I often invited him, till not contented with mere civility, he shewed a more determined disposition, as he was unable to obtain his views. To carry on the appearance is sometimes necessary, when the reality fails.

This gentleman found himself as much embarrassed, as he termed it, in the commencement of love, as in its decline. Men find themselves so abashed, he said, as to be unable to declare themselves, sometimes. What then, a blissful thing the invention of writing is, I thought, to enable persons to lay open the sentiments of their minds as clearly, in the most distant land, as when quite near. That gentleman seemed sensible of, and to be gifted with, that blessing. He was desirous to be considered in attendance before all the more young and other inhabitants of the place. It is said, that

all persons have their hobbies ; this was the gentleman's charger, which, like many more, leaves us in the mud.

The winged Cupids themselves could not, with their light wings, try more to waft the gentleman's strain, than he daily did himself ; while in silent astonishment I listened, and looked to see in what, and where it would end. I knew the gentleman was married ; he often spoke of Mrs. Pytches, his mother, but whom I knew to be his wife. I had seen a great deal of human characters ; but this was one far beyond all I had witnessed. A marriage was proposed by letter, and after many such important epistles, there was one point to be confided to me ; it was deferred as a dernier matter to impart. I sought it not, but at last it came.

Fatal destiny ! he had been married, but for years had been separated ; but he could point out a country person to marry by proxy, and it would be better that he should not then be punished for a second marriage, he being the identical person ; it would be a marriage more secret. Indeed ! I

thought there are secrets in human characters, as in things! This is a new discovery! I have heard of such marriages, in cases of Princesses and Royal Personages; but, in the King's Bench this was something new, which Solomon himself never thought of. Whether to look upon this as profligacy or folly, in either case, I took no notice of it, till his next visit. I then lashed the vice; I did not spare even the man. Still, as the following letter will shew, which is now before me, there lingered some hope.

(A COPY.)

“ Caroline, the first moment I saw you, I became instantly convinced that my bliss or unspeakable misery would be the result; my affection for you has received daily increase, more than was ever obtained over any man; and my exhibiting what I felt, has made me a fool in your eyes, and has caused my banishment. Always bear in mind, it was an act Providence which brought us together in the same place. I yesterday told you, you were the dear object I was so long in search of,

to pass my days with; and that all the anxieties my soul could feel, would be at an end, when it could not offer any thing for your happiness; but, after hearing my lamentations in silence, and this morning, with the loftiness of an Indian queen, in the act of passing the most horrible description of torture, you had the hard heartedness to term me the plague. In what manner I accomplished my rescue from your apartment, I know not, and whether I shall outlive the blow and abasement of your astonishing letter, time only will shew! I can only say, that I have no power to write, nor to hold up my head, and I am your bleeding victim."

I returned no reply to this letter. The next evening, while I was sitting with my servant, the following letter was brought. I give the copies of them in writing my account of the King's Bench, because these letters have been ascribed to the late Sir Richard Croft. One letter of his, shortly after his death, expressed some lines almost in the same language, but on different matters. My private drawers were drained in the King's Bench, through my maid, who was bribed to convey

them to a gentleman there, for his perusal, whether those of a secret, or of an ordinary nature, but what the object was, I never learned. One morning I arose to seal and dispatch some letters which I had written the night before. My servant was out. I had arisen earlier than usual; I sought my letters, they were not to be found. I asked the servant, still without suspicion, where they were, she said she had not seen them; but, as she spoke the guilt rose in her face. I saw it, and assumed an indifference and composure. She went, and the letters were, shortly after her return, laid under a table. She was the first to discover them there; I had even searched that spot. When she left the room I watched from my window where she went, and I was satisfied. I attacked her upon her guilt; she confessed it. I had but a little before passed over a transgression. Some valuable things of mine had been pledged and made away with: among others, a watch, worth eighty guineas; dresses, linen, &c.; but I imputed that to an improper female who had been acquainted with her, and had persuaded her to it; but, upon this act I discharged her.

The letter which followed the foregoing one of Mr. Pytches, contained both words and matters, similar to those, in a letter which I had in my possession, though not from Dr. Croft, nor any one mentioned ; but from a person of high rank. The words of the letter were as follows, with this difference only, that the above mentioned person's letter began, " Ever dearest and unfortunate Caroline,"—Mr. Pytches' letter began, " Ever dear Caroline, though that ever will not exist through the night, for I am too much cut down to outlive the catastrophe. Before I go hence, I write to inform you, that this day I have made a will, by which you will inherit, on the death of my mother, all my estates in Sussex. In that will I have charged you to erect a tablet to my memory, expressive of the love of which I died.

" From the hand of your bleeding victim.

" P."

Indeed ! I thought I had been often threatened with pretended duels and battles, bleeding, dyings, and sighings ; but the King's Bench gentleman seems a shot beyond them all. Go Anne, I said,

forgetting that Anne, as well as Cupid, was weeping, see if he be really dead; but yet the style of the letter! Ah! appalling remembrance, it brought to my heart the strain of two lines, one written by, —of whom “ Let not the name, in this place, be even profaned by repeating. It is accident; it can be nought else!”

Here, while I digress from my subject, I must observe, that the above letter has been ascribed to Sir Richard Croft, to which were added, titles, estates, privileges, places. The additions were made by ingenious heads, but the subject they took from a letter found amongst my papers. The one was not complete enough to answer the ends in view; both letters were copied as one, but my name was omitted. This was done to answer the purpose, but when the world reads and perceives the end, it will be seen that Sir Richard Croft had neither right, title, estates, nor privileges to give to me: and whatever might have been his real sentiments, he dared not against the command of the family of my parent, even publicly express them. Therefore, with the best intention, though powerless, there ex-

isted, and ever will, a conviction, in my mind of the integrity and uprightness of the man, although he had not the power to recover my rights. I cannot, under this conviction, allow this matter to pass unnoticed, since they are the only private letters I publish throughout.

I must observe here, that, in bringing to light one man's secrets, such as those of Mr. Pytches, my object is to serve the ends of justice more than from any wish to hurt or expose the folly, or what may be worse, of any one who has committed no other crime than that of folly, in my eyes. The ends of justice are more imperative than such considerations; and if the exposition tend to deter others, here is the example, and the world may read it. These letters are faithful, and will remain as a monumental inscription to Dr. Croft. I have given these as explanations, nor could I do less under such circumstances.

My maid, when she entered the gentleman's room, found him not bleeding, but preparing the apparatus of death. She might have well said, as

Johnsons says, in the play of the West Indian, when the latter declares his intention of putting himself to death when his fortune is gone ; and, said the compassionate Johnson, "let it be a caution to you all the days of your life, never to do so again." There was a medical man in the King's Bench, a young man, who announced himself as having often had formerly the honour of packing up medicines for me, when at Alsop House. His employer, Mr. P——, was my medical attendant, when I had money to pay my bills as soon as furnished. This gentleman, on trivial occasions, was admitted to give his advice, and I thought in the existing case, he would be the best to prescribe.

The Marchioness's nephew, and Miss Farrell, forsook me not, they daily dined with me ; and I invited the Doctor also with them. This, I knew, would end the folly of Mr. Pytches. My friends at last, said, you do not want the Doctor daily ; but I silently thought, you do not know how effectual a cure he has been ; though, I assure you, I respect every man according to his conduct, more than his situation. I do not like physic ; still Mr.

T—— is very useful, and I cannot dispense with his dining here occasionally; he is a break between the advances of the one and the other; the bell rings at nine, and they must all go out: I like company; but no têtes-à-têtes with fools, who think because a woman is civil, she must be in love, and commit follies. If I wished to get rid, therefore, without prelude, of the fooleries of such guests as were pleasant to pass away the hours after dinner in sensible conversation, without subjecting wise men to talk folly, I am not to blame; therefore, my dear Miss Farrell, I said, you see I cannot do without the Doctor.

The Doctor, in a little time, became quite unnecessary, and I sent a polite letter enclosing him 5 or £6, for his occasional attendance, and this I hoped would have been a quietus; but he would not take the hint. He, however, one day, informed me, that an eligible situation awaited him abroad; but that for want of about £30 he was detained. Could I assist him? My acceptance would do as well as money; and, as I concluded this would at once end his further visits, I gave him

my acceptance for £30, payable at my friend's. Eight or ten days still passed on, and he did not seem inclined to go. One day that I was short of money, he proposed to lend me £4, which I accepted. In a few days, when I received money, I asked him if he had not been able to obtain his release, and that I could give him money for the bill. His reply was, he had a more important object than any situation offered, since he had the honour of Miss Cary's acquaintance; upon which I said, I should decline any future call from him, and as soon as he was gone, I instructed my servant to that effect. He called several times, but was denied access, and finding perseverance vain, he became so enraged, malignant, and vindictive, that he went to the Marshal and told him, that I owed him the amount of the bill which I gave him, and a Mr. de B——. The Marshal disbelieved it, as I lived in affluence. When I found this, and that he wrote to every one who knew me, I would neither see nor hear of him.

The very day I gave my servant notice to quit, a Mrs. E—— was placed with me. She and I

were four months together, and an old servant of mine came to reside with me. Just at this time, I returned a letter which I had received from Captain C——, whose impertinence I considered equal to that of others; but that gentleman knocked at my door, apologised and stated himself to be a friend of General Popham, and that he had often met me at Feltham Hill. Though I had no recollection of him, the mention that he was a friend of a man I so highly respected, gained him every attention; so much, that as soon as he informed me that he had not been two days in the prison and that he was obliged to be in the room with four people; I said, with my usual hospitality of manner, Sir, we breakfast at ten, and dine at five, I beg you will not stand upon ceremony.

As I was never alone, I was glad to pay every respect to any friend of the General's. Many days passed on, indeed, a few weeks; he sometimes dined, and generally took tea. During this time he never had any opportunity of speaking to me alone. He at last said, will you do me the favour to walk for ten minutes on the parade, I have something

important to say to you. I thought from the gravity and years of the man, for he was apparently about sixty, that he meant to offer some advice upon my affairs, and I went; but to my surprise it was to hear an offer of marriage. He said that he could settle £50 a-year upon me, and that he would take the benefit of the act, and free me of all my debts, if I would marry him.

My astonishment at this was great, for I understood he had a wife and family; and at the same time that I declined, I told him, that I wondered I had not seen his wife. Ah! poor thing, he said, she has been dead four years—and my son was drowned. I afterwards found that this said Captain had married three wives for their money, one of whom was dead; that one of his wives, and two children, were living in concealment, and that he had used her cruelly when he could not spend her property and that of her children. This I discovered after the occurrence I am going to relate. I said, if I had known his intentions, I would have declined his visits. He said he expected a refusal; but, as he should, therefore, leave the King's Bench

in a few days, he hoped I would allow the matter to pass unnoticed ; as he should not like to be debarred paying a morning visit to me for a few days. This was allowed—in a day or two he told me that he intended to give his farewell dinner ; that the Delvilles, and perhaps the General would dine with him, would I do him, he said, the honour of meeting them ? The family of the Delvilles I highly respected, they were friends of the General. Without an idea of suspicion, I promised joyfully to give them the meeting. The day arrived ; I went ; the cloth was laid for seven people. Dinner was put back, and still, no one came. He pretended to rave at this like a disappointed man. I begged to return home, adding, that if they came I would return. He felt seemingly much hurt ; hoped I would stay ; he was sure, he said, they would come after dinner. I at last sat down, still uncomfortable. My servant, who came with me, was to have waited in the next room. My orders were delivered to her, as she thought, to go home ; but she did so without my knowledge. Immediately after the dinner was removed I saw him rise, when he locked the door, and put the key in his

pocket; he then drew the chair near me, and sat for some minutes silent, his countenance ghastly. On a sudden he extended his arm, and from beneath the sleeve of his coat he grasped a clasped knife of terrific size. Extending his arm towards my breast: be witness, he said, every power! that this hand shall never be withdrawn till I have dispatched you, and then myself; for I am determined never to see you married to another, and within this hour you shall bind yourself down to marry me. Horror had rendered me powerless, but as soon I could speak, I said, I shall bind myself to do so. Then kneel down here, he said, and read the marriage prayer with me. The prayer book lay opened on the table, and the marriage prayer he began. I was forced to kneel, while in the one hand he held the knife, the other grasped the book, from which he read. As he proceeded, my heart, in silence, prayed to God to rescue me from so great a villain. As soon as the prayer was finished, I stood up from off the chair upon which I sat. Unable to support myself, I said, Sir, I shall now go home! From this room you shall not go this night, he said; we are as lawfully

married as if by the doctor. To-morrow we shall purchase the marriage licence—I shall stay, we shall stay.

More speaker with sister. I heard, across the chimney piece, the sister said to me: "What I thought, in silence, to myself, that I, as a woman left, if all others fail me in the time of trouble, that knife shall give the room with its sharp blade. Firm in the resolution, I expected, a few minutes by heaven, another one more in time. — I am contented. So I said, and I am now, at last, am I to manage to get my things. I am doing here? How can you get my things? I cannot without its being known that I am here. I would not, he said, for the universe, not your daughter. Well, then, I said, come with me, and I shall get my things: I shall tell them not to wait for me, that I shall not return till morning, that our friends are at supper. Good, good, he said. I will come directly: take what you want, that will be the best way to tell them it once.

I heard him close the door after us, and I

felt I could draw breath, though all power had almost left me. In hope and fear I gained the door, where I found my poor maid and Mrs. E—— waiting for me. Now wretch, I said, use your knife, from hence I do not go. I briefly told them what had passed; he instantly drew the knife from his pocket, but ere he opened it, I felt a lion's strength; I immediately snatched it from his hand, and flung it through the glass window. It fell upon the parade; he rushed out of the room after it. I bade the servant fly to Mr. Mayberry, and the Rev. Mr. Brice, now of Bath; who were the only two *gentlemen* I knew in the place. Mr. Mayberry came before the Captain reached the door, which was bolted and locked. A crowd collected; and in his disappointed rage, he made use of the most horrid language. The next day, he was locked out of the prison; while an application was made to the Magistrates, who would not attend without an order from the Marshal.

The Secretary of State was applied to; Mr. Becket stated, it should be attended to; but sent word afterwards, that he had heard I was the

mistress of Wellesley Pole, the celebrated Miss Cary, and he refused to attend, or to send a Magistrate. Thus, even crimes are sometimes corrected by private means. The Captain's wife heard of the transaction, and sent to me. The Captain had originally been a watchman, he afterwards became a private in the third regiment in the American war; and though, perhaps, he never became a Serjeant, yet he took the promotion of Captain. This was but one of the characters, then in the King's Bench. He was not permitted to come into the Prison any more, nor have I ever seen him since. Amongst other persons, there was a Clergyman and his wife, of the name of W——, they anxiously sought my acquaintance, which I slightly kept. Indignation had taken possession of my better feelings, and in this perturbed state, I wrote to Sir Richard Croft, who had so often promised to bring about an amicable arrangement with my friends. The harshness and severity of my letter had kept him away; but he wrote a few lines to assure me still, that nothing should on his part be omitted; that he would soon see me, he hoped, under better auspices.

I found, in a few weeks after, that the said Captain had been to every one who knew me, and stated every horrid falsehood; in consequence of which, my remittances were stopped. I bore up for a long time, nor deigned to complain. I lived for many months upon what my clothes, and the few trinkets I had left at the Pulteney, produced. My necklace of real pearls, four of them rough, the cross of which alone, cost £70, was kept as a pretended compensation for Miss P——'s attendance for a fortnight, she having been recommended at the Pulteney as a companion.

When I found my state beyond redress, I ordered the linen at the Pulteney to be delivered to the man, of whom I purchased it; but it was claimed there, and detained for the balance of my account. Persecutions were only then beginning, and it happened that the son of a Mr. P—— Cary was in the King's Bench, he had a lady living with him, who was turned out; he caused her to be arrested in the name of Miss Cary. She and Mr. Cary lived in No. 10, Stair-case, and I lived in No 6, Stair-case. I could not account for the daily

calls of people I did not know, till I heard of these persons.

The incessant knocking at my door was sometimes quite troublesome ; two and three gentlemen would enter, asking if Miss Cary was at home ; and when I appeared, I was not the lady. I could not account for this, till one day, a man brought a basket of game ; it is for Miss Cary, he said, Mr. M—— sent it. I knew a military gentleman of that name, and I doubted not that it came from him. Some of this game I sent as presents, the rest I used ; but in a few days, I received a note from Mr. Cary, requesting the game. I then, for the first time, ascertained that there was also a lady of my name ; I offered to pay for the game, but the matter there ended, as the gentleman refused to take payment for it. This similarity of names occasioned me in that place great annoyance. Private attacks began to follow me, which I imputed to the conduct of such characters as these, and I treated them as they merited, when once discovered.

I had paid a guinea and a half a week for a
VOL. II.

room, but when my finances began to run low, I required a room as other people usually had ; this was denied. I then refused to pay that sum weekly, till my request should be complied with. At last it was settled, that I should pay £20 for furniture and every thing, when I should leave the Prison, and I gave £5 to the person to whom the room belonged, in advance. In a few days after this, two females were sent into my room about half-past nine at night. I never had been subject to the rules of the place till then ; it is true, I had ceased to pay a guinea and a half per week, therefore it was to gratify revenge, that this was resorted to. My servant was locked out, and two strange women sent in. It was not then, as now ; the Marshal used to rely on his officers, who were so profligate, that for money they would then do any thing ; therefore, this was done with a view that I should have been forced to have occupied the accommodations of some gentleman's rooms, which by letters crowded upon me. Almost immediately after this, these women were sent in, which shewed the plan had been laid. I rejected all of them with horror ; and sent for a farmer, who

had several times addressed himself to me, whenever I happened to walk in the passage. He announced himself as the relative and friend of my landlord at Brighton; he was quite a plain industrious looking man. I sent for him, and went directly with him up to the Rev. Mr. W——; Mrs. W——, was the sister of Mr. W——. They received me with all possible kindness, but they had a gentleman in their room; therefore, Mrs. W—— generally went out. I returned frightened and not knowing why two strange women should be sent to me, and my servant locked out. I lay down in my clothes; and while these women were undressing, they began to fight, so that I was obliged to leave the room, till I heard them quiet again; and joyful it was to me to see day light.

I then wrote to the Marshal, stating, that I was willing to conform, as far as possible, to the rules of the place; that there were respectable women in the King's Bench, who would willingly be with me. I mentioned two, but no notice was taken. These women lay in bed, and it was the time, when the Commissioner of Chancery was

daily attending on me with interrogatories. I expected him to come, and requested the ladies to get up, it was then past eleven. One of them turned in bed, I will not get up, said she ; I shall not get up, said the other. Two Solicitors came shortly after, and remained some hours in the room with me.

These women lying in bed at one end of the room, shocked me so much, that when the gentlemen went away, I was so enraged that I turned round to them, and said, Do you know the custom of the King's Bench? No, said one. It is, I replied, to put people under the pump who behave ill. I am not able to place both of you under the pump, but I will drown you in bed with water, I said, if I find you lie in bed in this room after ten o'clock any day. I spoke it so determinedly, that they looked at each other, and were as quiet as mice all day.—I went and dined at the Clergyman's, and returned home after ten ; I intended to bathe my feet. They were both in bed : I put a kettle of water on the fire, it was low, I took up a pair of bellows and began to blow it ; instantly

the one rose, the other jumped out of bed ; one snatched a shawl, and the other what she could find. This conduct frightened me ; I put down the bellows, and went to the door, I looked after them ; they are gone, I thought, to Bedlam, where no doubt they came from.

Soon after, the night officer came with them ; even he, stood at the door, and seemed fearful to advance. What is the matter, Sir ? I said. What is the matter ? he said, you have frightened these poor women almost to death ! Miss Cary, I did not think you could have done so ! Surprise kept me silent. Go in, he said, go in, to the women, addressing himself to me ; you have put on, he said, a kettle of water to scald them with when in bed. I was struck with horror at this wicked idea, which had never entered my mind. The fact is, Sir, I said, that you had better get a strait waistcoat to put on them, and sit up with them till morning. Go to bed, ladies, he said, she shall not touch you. Miss Cary, I must beg of you not to frighten these poor women any more. I lay down in my clothes as soon as he was gone, and towards eleven in the

day, a message was sent to me from the Marshal. I felt indignant that he had not replied to the application I had made; and I had sent word, if the Marshal wants me, he may come here, I shall not go to him. In half hour an officer was sent down, with orders to lock me out of my room, to turn out my books and furniture, and for my room to be given to the women. I went up to the Clergyman, he and his wife were there; and towards eight o'clock a written authority, upon the usual ticket in the King's Bench, was sent, that Miss Cary was to go and live in a room with Mrs. Meed, a woman of the most abandoned description in the prison, in whose room men used to sleep, by whom she was kept.

This exceeded all, and now, I said, I shall stand upon no further ceremony. It was too late to seek redress that evening, and the Clergyman and his wife could not accommodate me at night. The farmer, and a man who was in his room, offered their room; I consented to sit up all night with them, which I did. Their room was next to the Clergyman's. Early the following day I wrote a

letter to Mr. Lushington, the Master of the Crown Office, and informed him that I had no alternative left me than to walk the parade, or to go into a room with a woman of infamous conduct, or to accept the room of the profligate characters, who seemed to lie in wait for such opportunity, and that I had sat up all night in a room with two men, who had pledged themselves I should not be molested.

•

Mr. Lushington, in a few hours after came, and he found me in the room with these people. To do him the justice, I must say, that he acted the part of an honest and an upright man. He observed, that in a savage country such conduct as this could scarcely be equalled. Here, then, he said, I shall sit, (and he drew a chair,) until this Mrs. Meed is turned, not only out of the room, but out of the prison; but if you prefer your own room, Miss Cary, he said, it shall be given. The Clergyman and his wife, next room, I said, are particularly anxious I should be near them, I therefore prefer one in this stair-case. Mr. Lushington ordered the Deputy-Marshal, who was the cause of all this

as I afterwards heard, (for he was a profligate man,) to procure me the key of the room. Nor did he leave me till the key of Mrs. Meed's room was delivered to me in his presence. This put an end to all further annoyance to me as long as I remained in the King's Bench.

About this time, the situation of a person, who was living in the greatest misery, interested me so much, that I wrote to the Secretary at War to represent his case of five years' sufferings, of the most unjust nature, and how by the wickedness of others, he had been represented to have had concern in a matter, of which he knew nothing. I did not then know who was the Secretary at War; but I knew that I had friends who would wait on him, to elucidate the case of this poor individual. I received a letter signed Palmerston. This I need not say, brought before my view some circumstances relative to Lord Palmerston, whose letter it was visible shewed every disposition to investigate the business. I concluded, from a difference which subsisted between us, that no attention would have been paid to it, but this occurrence

renewed a correspondence, and the case was subsequently investigated.

During my residence in the King's Bench, I was not indebted to any one for the slightest obligation. —There was a Mr. A—— in the staircase, where I went to reside ; he made particular offers of personal service ; and as I lived entirely with the Clergyman and his wife, Mr. A—— was invited. Here the following plan to terminate my debts was laid. It was recommended that I should give my consent to be married by special licence. A person should be found, on whom I should bestow my hand, and whom I should never more see ; such things they said were done. Mr. A—— proposed to find such a gentleman ; he would have no objection himself, but that was refused, before this matter came upon the tapis. Well ! I thought, what next ? I have heard of marriages in heaven, but in this opposite place, two new systems appear, which I never read nor heard of before. I was, however, determined to see the joke out ; it reminded me of what the late Queen Charlotte said to a German Baron, who accosted her familiarly. “ I do not know

•

you!" Your Majesty; I had the pleasure of being with your Majesty in that dreadful storm, on our way from Germany. Baron, she said, I do not know what pleasure it was to you, but to me it was no pleasure at all. This matter was considered as remarkably clever, and was enjoyed as a good thing; but I listened only to human discoveries, which in the King's Bench, as in all other scenes of my life, were opening to me. The business proceeded, and a person was to be hired, but it was already planned, that instead of this man, Mr. A——— was to put on the disguise; I heard this in confidence. What! I said the next morning at breakfast; you would not have me marry him wig and all, in the sixtieth year of his age! though I should not on account of his years, nor his wig despise him, nor any man, since wise men generally wear wigs. But I can tell you, I said to the Parson, he has been separated four years from his wife, so if I can get any one to give him a kick, and leave him where he is, it will be best. At all events, said the Divine, let us be civil to him. You may, I said, but my debts are not so irksome, as the means you give me to be rid of them. I

will, therefore, bear them.—And you are a fool for your pains, said he.

Lord Palmerston, on account of the correspondence, called on me in the King's Bench. He professed any service in his power to extricate me from my difficulties, and I availed myself, in some trivial degree, of his friendship. I had pledged myself solemnly to Sir Richard Croft, that I would place in the hands of others, all that related to me, since he thought proper to neglect, wholly and entirely, all that he had engaged to do. Upon this I informed him, that either to the Duke, or Lord Palmerston, or to both, I would make a full disclosure. The Princess Charlotte was then dead, and I had my mourning on the first time Lord Palmerston called.

Shortly after, in reply to my letter, Sir Richard called, and in the manner described in the political document, he laid before me the anonymous letters which had been written to him, and the conduct, wholly, of those who considered the death of the Princess Charlotte a favourable opportunity to

ensure to themselves the reward of their contrivances in the Princess of Wales's friendship, whenever she should return; as it was well known that an enquiry into Her Royal Highness's conduct was instituted. Sir Richard Croft placed in my hands a packet of letters and papers, a few of them of no importance, which were given to him by Mr. Monk, before he went to Ireland. With these papers, which were all he had of mine, the anonymous letters were left. I should shortly, he said, hear from him fully; till then, he begged of me to be patient.

Soon after this event, I heard finally that he was no more. It is needless to attempt to describe my state and feelings. There were three gone in so short a period—two in the same fatal way!—What a fate, O God! I thought, is mine; now I stand again in the world alone, unknown and unprotected, yet I am confident in that Power alone, which still remains for me; still of that I do not seem to be duly sensible! I now determined that neither to Lord Palmerston, nor to any mortal should this secret fate and destiny be known, which

pursues me ; as an individual alone, shall he know me. Nor did I ever even hint at the matter, till some time after Colonel Maclean offered his hand. I refused it, and then told Lord Palmerston that there was a secret in my history. A dispute had taken place upon this offer, so that my acquaintance with Lord Palmerston was then within a days close. Under the circumstances I was placed in in the King's Bench, I then particularly requested the friendship of Lord Palmerston, without which, I felt certain, I should not be able to obtain liberty, by the only painful alternative left me, namely the Insolvent Court. In pecuniary matters I was quite powerless ; the lawyers having drained me of so many sums of money for six months, during which time I had changed them five times ; but they were all bought, and playing into each other's hands ; and each of them had obtained twenty or thirty pounds ; and had not his Lordship's interference, by the appointment of a solicitor, terminated their schemes, I might have remained in prison for ever ; for the moment an attorney is appointed, the same understanding generally took place. So that if a change was made, to the number of twenty, the

•

same system of imposition or connivance took place, under the honourable sanction of a class of lawyers, who bring discredit upon the rest of that more respectable community.

Mr. W——, Lord Palmerston's solicitor, took the management in hand, but according to the rules of the Court at that time, there were regular agents, who have been since dismissed, who were too bad almost for a respectable man to have any thing to say to. At the time I went up, I neither knew where, or in whose hands, the bonds given for Mr. Monk were; and at one time, shortly before he went to Ireland, I was told that they were all cancelled, except one of £13,000. Shortly after my release, I was applied to respecting them. On the day my case came before the Court, I have stated in a former part, that Counsellor Pollock produced against me the bills stolen out of my drawer, which had never even been indorsed; and amongst other fabricated things, it was first openly in Court asserted, that I had obtained money and value upon bills to that amount, of Colonel Wright, which bills never were made use of; and I then recollected

that they had been with some of Mr. Monk's, of which I could get no account; but I heard that Walduck had taken them out of my private drawer, upon the officer refusing to take them; and if my life were the forfeit, I could not tell till then, how, or who took them. I then stated to the Court, that Walduck, or the officer, must have stolen the contents of my drawer, for that I had given my key, and had sent a confidential servant to fetch the contents, of that drawer, shortly after my arrest, but it was found empty. The officer was then called into Court, who that day arrested me, and he stated that Walduck took them.

So great had been the injury to my feelings, and the change of air, after so long an incarceration in the King's Bench, that the next day I was seized with a violent fever. A man of the name of Ross, a member of those agents I have described, conducted my business, and sent me a bill amounting to £46; and though half the sum would have been exorbitant, I gave him by a check of Lord Palmerston's upon Drummond, £26, and a £10 note. This gentleman, because I refused to recommend

the case of a man, who was to have paid him a sum of money for such a recommendation, one day shortly after my release, when scarcely recovered from my illness, without ever calling on me for the payment, arrested me, for £20 more, added to his account.

I had been engaged to take a party of ladies to Mr. Penn's lectures and morning refreshment. My friend had hired a carriage by the year; and an adequate sum to keep two servants, and a good table was allowed, until some arrangement in life should be made for me. Mr. and Mrs. Beaseley recommended a lodging, wherein they had resided in James-street, Buckingham-gate; and there, as Sunday was the leisure day of Lord Palmerston, he used to pass some hours; and the kindness of a father or brother, could scarcely equal his conduct. That nobleman to whom I owed wholly and entirely my release from captivity, though the man of gallantry is not the deviator from rectitude. Every man and woman will judge of the conduct of others according to the views of their own mind, if there is a want of virtue in that mind, it judges others

according to what it feels in itself: but, if real rectitude dwell there, it can allow, that the actions, friendship, and even the generosity of others, may be sometimes disinterested, and can find pleasure so different in the practice of such conduct, which the profligate and corrupt are incapable of conceiving.

Lord Palmerston seemed interested for my youth and misfortunes; had he been otherwise, I laid myself wholly under obligations to him; I was most fully, therefore, in his power. Nevertheless, I experienced the most unequalled rectitude and integrity. In thus stating, without prejudice, the actions of all, I must here do him that justice which his conduct merited; and with equal justice I must say, that the severity which in some instances he afterwards shewed towards me, from my thoughtlessness, at least, perhaps, I deserved. My health was seriously injured, owing to my long confinement. A pair of white ponies were sent to me, and a phaëton, to drive about in the environs of the town. These ponies once belonged to the Princess Charlotte. I used to drive out daily; and one

day, driving up Constitution Hill, a servant of Lord Palmerston's passing that way saw me, and crossing the road, put his hand to his hat; upon which the ponies of their own accord stopped. The servant presented a note, which he was going to deliver where I lived. The Archbishop of Canterbury and a Clergyman, were then walking on the opposite side, and saw that the ponies stopped as the servant put his hand to his hat. They were so surprised, that they stood admiring them; the Archbishop exclaimed, Pretty dear! to the pony which was standing near him; the serious Clergyman looked curiously at him, Your Grace, he said, do you mean the lady or the pony? The Archbishop, a little nettled, drawing himself up, the ponies to be sure, he said.

I had sent my carriage to fetch the daughter of Sir W. G——, and also the beautiful Miss B—— and Miss G——. Mr. Penn had sent me weekly, tickets for as many friends as I wished to invite. I drove leisurely on, through the Park, to the steps which lead into New-street, where Mr. Penn's house was. Just after I entered the drawing-room, the Archbishop and the Clergyman

immediately caught my attention ; they both took a seat opposite to me, and drew up as if to prevent even a smile. The Priest, not of Apollo, but of Mr. Penn, the terrestrial patron of matrimony, hymen's representative, in his lecture, brought to our minds the bright example of William Penn, the first founder of Pennsylvania ; the first institutor of civilization, of manners, of religion, of trade, and of marriage among the savages. An example, which shews to what refinement, to what obedience, to what laws, both moral and civil, a people in any state may be brought, if those who are gifted with superior learning and talent, were to set good examples to the unenlighted part of the community, of whatsoever kind they may be. These lectures were called Outinian, and held at Mr. Penn's, and were patronised by the most exalted ladies of title, and distinguished characters.

During the whole of the lecture, though upon so serious a subject as matrimony, the Archbishop and the Clergyman could scarcely refrain from smiling at the lady or the pony. When the lecture was finished the company retired to the refreshment

room. There I often saw Lord Grantley, whom I have mentioned in a former part as having met him in Harley-street, and amongst many old acquaintances; Colonel Maclean, to whom I had given a ticket, joined my party. I had accidentally met the Colonel driving through Chelsea with some ladies, he recognised me as we passed; I pulled the check string, he stopped and shook hands; I enquired what had become of Mrs. Shafford, at whose house he formerly resided before I went to Whitelands. He said, if I would favour him with my address he would let me know. The next day he called, and stated he could obtain no intelligence of her. I told him I wished, for most particular reasons, to know where she was.

The Colonel often called, and if I were not at home, he left his card, so as an "Auld lang sine" acquaintance, I introduced him to many of my friends, and he was invited into their families. This brought on a further intimacy, and he was generally well received by those families whom I visited. While Troy stood, fortune was; but when a reverse took place, there were not more than

five from whom I received either attention or notice. Mr. Penn was one of those who noticed me, after my release from the King's Bench.—Such are the ideas of the hunters after those who stand high in life, who have a splendid equipage, &c.; but, when fortune and those glittering toys are lost, then, in their ideas, honour leaves them. These are people who have never been able even to know what real and tried integrity is.

The lady who presided at Mr. Penn's was the Baroness N———. She and her husband were introduced to me, for the first time, by Mr. Penn, and as friends I treated them with every respect, and they were attentive and civil, and frequently visited me, with other friends of Mr. Penn's, even in the Rules, to which place I was shortly after consigned, for the very debts upon which the Court had freed me. These debts were incorrectly set forth by Ross, whose arrest I have mentioned, but which, on account of the former sum I had paid, I was advised to set aside in Court, as a fraud; but Mr. ———, the Attorney, who conducted it, brought me in debt £400 for setting aside a warrant of

Attorney for £40; and so the world, and law, and fashion go: in each I was destined to be whirled.

Lord Palmerston became my security to the Marshal of the King's Bench, and his Solicitor, Mr. W——, went on slowly with the case. I had introduced Colonel Maclean to Lord Palmerston long before this occurrence took place, and the greatest civility subsisted between them. Upon many occasions the Colonel had been my escort, and I considered his conduct wholly disinterested; under such impression I had introduced him, till, in the rules he offered his hand. This surprised me much; and I regretted any such sentiment in the mind of a man, whose conduct seemed more like a brother than a suitor. Lord Palmerston had acted so disinterested a part that I mentioned it to him; and the Colonel wrote, and afterwards waited on Lord Palmerston, who cut the matter short, while I was blamed for having represented a man in a different light to his Lordship, from what his real sentiments subsequently shewed. As I was not aware of them at the time, I wished to drop the acquaintance, and therefore I returned the

Colonel's letters unopened, and told Lord Palmerston that he was gone out of town, for so I was informed. But the next day the Colonel, in a rage gave a single knock at the door, and rushed up into the drawing-room where I was. He stated, that he came to demand an explanation of my conduct, and that he was resolved to call Lord Palmerston out without any delay. He knew him, he said, to be the cause of my behaviour. I assured him Lord Palmerston had no part in the step I had pursued; that the state of my affairs would not allow me to marry; that my debts, &c. prevented me, and that had I known his sentiments I would not have chosen him as my escort upon all occasions. He then observed, that it was those occasions which gave him an opportunity of estimating my conduct beyond any other situation. He would even sell off his commission, he said, if I would prefer him. I assured him I never would act so unjust a part as to put him to such an alternative; and as it was his solemn declaration to call Lord Palmerston out, I anxiously took all blame upon myself, assured him I was not to be influenced by Lord Palmer-

ston, or any one, and I was therefore resolved our further acquaintance should end.

The woman of the house where I was, was one of those ingenious pretty kind of widows, (if she was ever a wife,) who are frequently met with. She had four children, and could tell a tale to excite interest. One day I went into her room, and saw a letter from Lord Palmerston upon her table ; I did not seem to take notice, but I was certain she had been applying to him, under pretended distress, to obtain money. I was told she had a habit of the kind. I know that, however Lord Palmerston despised strangers, he was too polite not to return them a reply. I recollected she had been listening to all the violence of language which the Colonel had used, and as soon as he was gone, I said to her, I should feel obliged if she would not say that he had been there ; I added that I had told my friends that he left town, and so I believed.

My landlady sometimes herself had been to Lord Palmerston for payment, as he had been re-

sponsible for all that concerned me there; and she told his Lordship what I had cautioned her not to name. Lord Palmerston, upon this occurrence, wrote me a letter, in which he stated, that I was void of sincerity, truth, discretion, prudence, and common sense. Had he called on me for an explanation, however desirous I might have been to avoid it, it might possibly have ended too seriously; but I could have given a satisfactory reason for the conduct I so unwillingly, but so thoughtlessly pursued.

I felt so indignant at being accused of all these things, while I knew that my conduct was founded on the most honourable motives, that I determined to give no explanation, but solemnly pledged myself that neither riches nor poverty should force me under further obligation to Lord Palmerston. I demanded that he should cause my papers to be delivered up, and I did not spare him. Colonel Maclean handed me, that day, two letters of Lord Palmerston's, which are now before me, wherein he states, that his conduct towards me was out of somewhat of compassion, on account of my

years, and the situation I was in, and that my imprudence in money matters was great; that I had drawn bills on him, at different times.

Lord Palmerston frequently accepted bills, sometimes to the amount of a hundred, two hundred, and fifties, which he used to make payable at Drummond's. He was responsible for my payments, either every month, or three months; and in giving the people such bills to be paid, was no more than I had been in the habit of doing; but all that was then due, is still unpaid. His Lordship wrote me the most cutting letters, and in one of them he tells me, that it shall fall heavy upon me for many a-day. The man, or woman who has been accustomed to obligations, even to the best characters, is some times placed in a worse situation than that from which they fly.

The day I became under obligations to Lord Palmerston, I considered the condescension on my part, far greater than his, as some of the most exalted would have been proud to assist me. Though I owe him so many obligations, still I can

not forget that, as a private individual, I stood as high in the world once, as ever he can. It is to be lamented when a man or woman loses sight of a due feeling and regard to a virtuous character, let their other faults be what they may, and who, contrary to reason and conviction, will persist always in one opinion, however wrong; so it is to be lamented, that, to these obligations to Lord Palmerston, I owe more ills, than any other, of any part of my life. And though his conduct, in every moral sense, was the most correct, yet the world took advantage to represent me as his mistress, though I would sooner drink of the stream and eat bread, or dwell in a cottage in the desert, before I would be the mistress of the first man in Europe. Therefore, while the consciousness exists in my mind that I am innocent as at the hour I was born; I shall no longer tamely allow such infamy as has been cast against me; while in those situations of obscurity, where my conduct may appear doubtful to many, still, though it may appear that I want real proofs of what it has been, there are living and exalted characters to whom that conduct is more than superficially known, when ever I have occasion to refer to them. But neither

while I was in the elevation of fortune, or in the prison's gloom, does that man live, who can, with justice, reproach my moral conduct.

When represented as the mistress of Lord Palmerston, I tried to bear it in silence, nor could I bring my mind to stoop to ask the falsehood to be contradicted. The day after this had occurred I was unfortunately engaged to go to the theatre, with a party of Mr. Penn's, and friends, to see a play, newly written by Mr. G——, of Portland-place, a friend of Mr. Penn's. It came out at one of the theatres in the Strand, and as it was Term time, people might be out of the Rules till nine at night. I was returning home, as near that hour as possible, Miss Farrell was with me in the carriage, when at the foot of Westminster bridge three men seized the horses' heads, and instantly mounting behind and on the box, told the coachman I was arrested, and to drive on. It was then ten minutes after nine, therefore, the day rule could not protect me. We were taken to a lock-up house, where I sat up all night, almost distracted. Early I sent a message to the Marshal of the King's Bench,

who sent his officers to demand me. The object of this was, if I had been forty eight hours out of the Rules, to make the Marshal pay my debts, for which Lord Palmerston was security. The custom is, when any one breaks the rules, they are obliged to go within the walls of the prison till the Marshal, or the Judges consent to their returning into the Rules. I was therefore rendered to the King's Bench.

The Baroness and the Baron came over to me about the time I got in. There was no room to be obtained at any price; Mr. Pyches heard of this and gave up his room in the State House. To accept his, was of all evils, great under the circumstances of his former letters; but there was no alternative, he left the room. The Baron and Baroness dined there with me; the Colonel heard of it, and he followed them, and dined there also. Under such circumstances, and in such a place, it was not a time to dwell upon the past. While dining there that day, I heard that a Baronet of whom I had a little previous knowledge, was in the King's Bench, I sent for him to join our party; and, as he was almost a stranger in London, I got

my friends to be security for the Rules for him. It was two days and two nights before I obtained them for myself; both my maids, and a lady, a friend of Mrs. W——, sat up with me; I did not even undress while in the King's Bench.

When I returned to the Rules, I invited the Baronet to dine with us daily, while I remained there. I discontinued the Solicitors appointed by Lord Palmerston and almost immediately after, I left the Rules, and went to an hotel; having caused arrangements to be made at Russell House, for my residence there. The impositions and charges, and sums paid at one hotel, sent me to another, when I paid and settled all. I remained there till the appointed day to go to Russell House, but the next day, I was taken ill with a scarlet fever, and sore throat, and private lodgings were recommended in preference to the noise of an hotel. Immediately in one of those streets, near Oxford-street, lodgings were taken, and I continued dangerously ill for three weeks, before I was able to go to Russell House. Lord Palmerston was informed of this, but did not even send; the people of the house heard I was

his mistress, and insulted even my maid. I wrote to a noble personage, a friend of mine, who sent me money, and I paid their whole demands, except £4, which I considered an overcharge; but, as I could not take my servant with me to Russell House, I agreed to pay for her for a fortnight, and I wrote to give her a character. This girl was turned out into the streets by her mistress at night. I sent my servant to take her in, and afterwards, finding her parents would not receive her, I hired her, to be with me in the King's Bench; but aware she was not fit for another place, for two years I kept her, and at length, got her a good situation. I had given her when parting with her, a seal which in value was not worth 10s. belonging to Colonel Maclean, from whom I wished my departure to be secret, and I desired her to return this seal; but she either pledged or sold it, and therefore, except to pay her her wages, I never saw her more.

I had scarcely been a month at Russell House, Streatham, ere the whole house was in a consternation, whether I was the wife or mistress of Lord

Palmerston. It was positively affirmed, that I was one or the other. There were thirty young ladies in the house, all from the age of fifteen to twenty. The lady of the house went to Lord Palmerston, who, till then, did not know what had become of me. She begged he would satisfy her; but he refused, and said, Madam, if you have any business to write to me upon which requires an answer, I will send it. He rang the bell, and she and the gentleman who attended her, came away as wise as they went. Upon hearing this, I wrote to Lord Palmerston, and condescended to ask him, as an act of justice, to contradict this account; but he refused. I then determined to return to London, but promising to go back to Russell House, whenever the infamy of the report should be contradicted. As in all cases, I went to Mrs. Marshal, while the lady who kept Russell House, stayed in town with me two days. Lord Palmerston was then told of her stay, and her unwillingness to leave me; yet still he refused to satisfy any one.

Having left Russell House for the above reasons, and as was usual in all my troubles, I consulted with

Mrs. Marshal. She was ever kind and ready to partake of my sorrows. She immediately desired that I would stay at the hotel, where I then slept the night before ; and, in the mean time, she would give orders to prepare apartments for me in a house where she had long resided, in Queen-square. This was done, and I went there ; having secluded myself for a few weeks ; my music, books, and the like resources were my only society and comfort during this time. In offended pride, I wrote the most earnest letters to Lord Palmerston, begging that he would contradict the false and foul calumny cast upon me ; having, as already stated, been represented, and even publicly talked of, as one of his mistresses. I represented to him in the strongest light, that his refusing to do so, kept me suffering, and impeded my availing myself of all the advantage of the interest of the Earl of S——, and Lord L——, who had taken upon themselves to enter into the most unequalled responsibility, to place me in a situation of independence.

I knew Lord Palmerston's disposition so well,

that the greatest evil that could befall, could not for one moment soften his temper of resentment; but this was not the case till then, as I own I had given much provocation. I shall leave to my impartial readers to judge of the matter, or the circumstances, whether I should have been allowed to remain in such a light when my conduct was as free from reproach, as it was the hour I was born. Having appealed to his Lordship's conviction of the same, but still in vain; those exalted persons who for nearly twelve months previous, had left no opportunity untried, to give me the proofs of their friendship, having been questioned as to the conduct of the person, they had but a little time since recommended felt themselves so peculiarly situated, that they insisted that I should cause the odium cast upon me, in regard to Lord Palmerston, to be publicly or privately contradicted. Until that was done, they could do nothing to serve me. I represented to his Lordship, that all on earth I could depend on, was withheld, until he contradicted the falsehood. That I was then without money, and getting into debt without the means of paying, but all to no effect; his private resentment only found the greater

consolation in this, though his better feelings perhaps disapproved his conduct.

Some months passed on, and except Mrs. Marshal, I scarcely saw any one, except the persons who used to attend upon me. Having found myself cut off from the world, I turned my attention wholly to that source which leaves no sting; to every branch of education I had ever pursued I gave up my mind; and having entered into that pursuit, I found that the dishonesty of the world, its wrongs and calumnies, were considerably lost. I found independence of mind, to which all are strangers who have never, by application, drawn forth the finest treasures of learning. They who are contented with a superficial and outward colouring, are often inflated with pride, while the reality is undiscovered.

To my resources I became so devoted, that I neither desired splendid apartments, beaux, nor public assemblies. My aim and admiration was to recall all that I had lost and forgotten, for some previous years in the world; and thus I warded

off the pointed arrow, which was still directed against me ; by allowing the base to brand me with a name which I did not merit. I found this the only shield, which blunted the point by living in silent seclusion. No occasion presented itself that could wound my feelings. I selected persons of talent, whose advertisements I had seen in the public papers ; who for a trifling sum, would devote spare hours to read with me the difficult authors, I had once studied ; and thus my hours from morning till night were taken up. And though so great an admirer was I of learning, yet it has been my misfortune to be deficient so much, that I who cannot write my own language correctly, must be considered presumptuous, in advancing a comment upon superficial acquirements, still, as my object was always to obtain basis rather than the colouring, when my mind was satisfied that I had done so, the practice was often neglected. To this circumstance, and to the neglect of my education in early life, I owe the disadvantage I feel, more in my own language, than I can express. During these employments, I looked forward to a mitigation of temper in the God of war.

The Earl of S——, and Lord L——, I had placed in a situation, which they did not approve; however, their assurance was given, that it was a foul calumny, meditated by some evil-minded person, and their confidence in me was so far satisfactory; still, while under any imputation, my name could be no farther advanced, therefore, I left to time what was not in my power to obviate. I still doubted not, that I should some day, on a sudden, be restored to light; till then, I omitted no opportunity which leisure gave me to perfect myself in the language I had formerly studied, and to this end I resigned all other considerations.

Before I left Russell House, the Queen had arrived in England, and was the subject at all tables, and in almost all places. My opinions were often asked, but I never attempted to enter into any upon matters to which I was a stranger, either in politics or public business. Until hearing one day that any residence had been denied her, and that she was forced to accept Alderman Wood's house, I then said, admitting that her conduct could be

every thing that is said, her birth and rank ought to entitle her, at least, to a residence, till either condemned, or proved the guilty person she was stated to be. This was said where many were present, and I recollect it was observed; ~~this~~ is the first favourable remark I have yet heard from you, by a gentleman opposite to me; all your friends are about the King, therefore, I supposed till now, you had inhaled their prejudices. That, Sir, I replied, is not my case. To see a woman of her rank now in the hands of such people, as those by whom she is surrounded, is sufficient for any one to lose sight of her errors, if they are what are reported. I shall certainly, said one, mention to some of her friends your sentiments, they do you credit. That, Sir, I cannot say, but every one's opinion is free. Many attempts had been made by different persons interested for Her Majesty, under the idea that I was a proper person to give them some information, if any could be obtained, in regard to the nature of the various witnesses and charges to be brought forward; this was urged on the grounds of my great influence with Lord Palmerston, and Lord L——, or Lord any body else. These were subjects upon which

I was totally ignorant, and I made it a rule never to advance any matter to any one with whom I ever had any influence, excepting a case of distress; and where integrity deserved it, on that account alone, I might have recommended; but upon public matters of any kind, I felt it unbecoming me to know, or to attempt to know. Thus finding their efforts in vain, it seemed to have been given up.

Some weeks after, I observed a gentleman, elegantly mounted, at the door where I lived, in Queen's-square; and having enquired if a lady of the name of Cary lived there, he was answered in the affirmative. He begged, he said, an interview; I refused, unless he sent up his name. That, he said, he wished to give me in person; I refused to see him: he asked for pen and ink, and merely wrote, "I am the gentleman who followed your carriage from Mr. Penn's morning assemblies, where I saw you on such a day. When after having seen you handed into your carriage, I followed it to Russell House. I am your correspondent, Lord D——; I am not come to

disturb your repose, upon any subject that you heretofore wished to avoid. Important business brings me here, if you will give me an interview, you shall know the cause." I was then dressing, and as unable, as unwilling, to give the interview proposed. But the urgency with which it was required, induced me to name the following day, my hours being previously engaged till then.

I had scarcely dined, when I regretted having deferred it so long, and curiosity seemed to prompt me, that, woman like, I changed my intention, and wished to see him as soon as possible. I wrote a note to that effect; but recollecting that he left no address, and never had put any to the letters he had sent to me to Russell House, I took up "Baily's Court Guide," and having seen Lord D——'s address, ——— street, Mayfair, I dispatched a servant with my compliments, and to desire to see him as soon as he could conveniently call, before even the time appointed. His Lordship called early next day. I had never, except at Mr. Penn's, and at a distance on horseback, seen my correspondent at Russell House. Still, the appear-

ance of the gentleman then present, left me at a loss what to think.

What, my Lord, is your important business with me? if you expect me to enter into your views, in regard to your former letters, I must say, I cannot. I feel embarrassed, said his Lordship, and am come to know your pleasure. I received your note, wishing to see me, and I am obedient to your commands. I have two hours leisure, before I go to the house; you are Miss Cary, he said. Yes, my Lord—and are you Lord D——? I am. We looked at each other like fools. Is this, my Lord, your writing? and I took up a cover of a letter directed to me, Russell House. No, it is not mine. Were you here yesterday? No, never before. Pardon me, and allow me to call the woman of the house. Mrs. G—— came, and soon convinced me it was not the gentleman. Well then, said his Lordship, who had seen and heard this, wait, then, till to-morrow, the appointed time, you will then find out the mystery; some one who does not wish to give his own name, has used

mine. My Lord, I shall fully let you know who it is.

Fortunately, however, he said pleasantly, yet I managed badly; it is delightful to discover young ladies' secrets; and he went away quite good-humouredly, while I engaged fully to acquaint him. By the bye, he said, have you any thing to do with the Queen's business, and what description of man was this? No; nothing to do with her affairs, my Lord. And having described the gentleman, still he did not know him. I shall, he said, be very anxious to know all about it.

The next day the gentleman came at the appointed time; he then briefly stated, that having some time since addressed some letters to Russell House, I did not reply to them, notwithstanding their great importance, which, he felt persuaded, no doubt, would now make an impression on a mind so naturally good, as he termed it. He was a friend of the Queen's, he said, and he entered into an able defence of her case, carrying the fullest

impression throughout all his reasoning. Allow me to ask you, if you did not once purchase, or hire a house from Sir William W——, in Park-lane? Yes, Sir, I did. Was not that house taken for you by the Marquis of Hertford? No, Sir; but the agent who had the letting it, or who was in trust, mentioned the Marquis of Hertford as his particular employer, and many of the nobility, he said, would give him a character. He said his name was H——, and he lives in G—— street, Grosvenor-square. I afterwards wrote to the Marquis, who gave him the highest character, and I paid him £20 as soon as he had settled for my taking the possession, which I intended, on my return from Brighton; but, immediately on this conclusion, the death of Mr. Monk was announced to me by his brother-in-law, Lord Arran, at Brighton, the particulars of which are stated in my foregoing history.

Will you allow me to ask, if you knew lady Molesworth at Kensington Palace? I have seen her a few times, I said, mere accident was the cause of our acquaintance. I lived with a family in the Kensington Road, which led to my

acquaintance with her Ladyship. And did not the late Doctor Croft sometimes visit you when you lived in that family? Mrs. Shafford, I think, is the name? Yes, Sir, that is the name. And the late Doctor Croft called on you there three times in a carriage, with some persons of rank? I do not know, I said, their rank, a mere matter of business was the occasion of his call. Pardon me, he said, but I have important reasons, and my conduct heretofore must have appeared strange; but I shall be candid and sincere with you in a few days. Will you allow me to introduce some friends to you; I understand you live quite retired? I like it, Sir; all great minds like retirement now and then, I do not see company, and therefore, I am not fit for society. At all events, allow me to introduce a lady to you, who will be a consolation to you; she plays elegantly, and sings delightfully; she is a friend of Lady Francis, in St. James's square. I have reasons, and important reasons, at present, to avoid giving my real name, hitherto I have used the name of a friend of mine, who has allowed me to do so: my reasons you shall fully know; direct to me, Sir William W——,

N—— street, St. James's-square, which N——, I saw by the "Red Book," was Lady Francis's. I never heard of her, but knowing her residence in St. James's-square, left me no further room for doubt, and I determined to wait the elucidation of the mystery.

The next day a lady called on me, who represented herself to be a friend of the gentleman, and of Lady Francis. She seemed delighted with my playing and singing, in fact, she seemed to be so delighted with me that she knew not how to take leave. We took wine, and talked for some hours upon various subjects. The next day she and the gentleman seemed to come about the same time, as if *par hazard*. After various subjects had passed, I have thought seriously, and the more I think, he said, the more I am persuaded that no one ever could more effectually serve the Queen than Miss Cary, and what a laudable act it would be! how nations would bless her name. The Queen, indeed, he said, is innocent, and Miss Cary, when you know me better, and that you promise me your confidence, I will convince you,

and not only convince you, but you will shudder when you hear the cruelties practised towards her.

Judging of other women—when I looked back upon the many situations where appearances and circumstances were so much against me, still my conduct was without reproach ; I listened to the various accounts of her, and believing, from my own experience, that although her conduct, in some things, as a woman, much more a Queen, was unpardonable, still I believed her guilty of every thing but actual crime. This, combined with the able hands I was in, induced me to ask them to partake of my dinner, such as it was. They staid and partook of it, and towards eight at night another lady and gentleman came. Miss Cary, said the gentleman, we are all friends of the Queen, and before we part, I trust you will be one of us ; and when you know these ladies, who are convinced of the Queen's innocence, you will not hesitate. Naturally open, candid, and unsuspecting in my temper, I was so inveigled by their manner, that they never left me till I had copied a letter which one of those ladies wrote ;

and I was obliged to promise that I myself would deliver it at the Queen's house.

It was a late hour that night when the promise was urged from me, on my honour that I would deliver it the following evening; and the gentleman having pledged his word that he would place in my hands, shortly, all that was mentioned in that letter, as I had pledged mine, I intended to deliver the letter, but to think no more of it. And as the party interrupted the hours I devoted to study, I desired the servant to deny me, as I wished to have nothing to do with any one's affairs, and I was not in a situation to entertain company.

Lord Palmerston, though I wrote to him, and told him that I was without a shilling of money, still refused to send any. My credit was getting low. The Marquis of Hertford heard of my being in Queen's-square; he wrote to me, or I wrote to him, and I requested him to lend me some money; he immediately sent me what I required. The following day I was arrested, and instantly carried off to prison, as stated in the fore-

going pages. Some time after I had been in the King's Bench, Sir William W—— waited on me, regretted my situation exceedingly, and asked if I had received any reply to my letter to the Queen. I shewed him a letter from Lady Anne Hamilton, dated the day after my arrest; ah, he said, never mind her; I shall see the Queen! hear and see from all; we are all one party, though no better some of us, than we should be. You like candour I know you do, and very shortly you shall see me. Count upon me as the most sincere and faithful friend you have in the world, mention not my name to any one; in a little time I shall explain myself.

I had not been long in the King's Bench, before Captain Otway addressed me; but I returned his letter, nor did I see him till Major L—— introduced him; and I dined with a party there daily afterwards. Captain Otway one day, after dinner, said, Miss Cary, I have a matter for your ear, which will interest you. You have seen that gentleman who has left the room, Captain Burke, he is the son of a Sir Thomas Burke,

and a Captain in the Portuguese service ; he is engaged to be married to the only daughter of a Baronet, who is to give her £100,000 ; he is upon leave of absence from his regiment, and his leave expires in three weeks, unless he is released before that time, the father of the lady must be told of his situation. He will not, in that case, allow his daughter to marry a man, who is once known to have been in prison ; and, on the other hand, he will lose his commission. I understand that his detaining creditors will take a good acceptance, can you arrange it, Miss Cary, to oblige me ? I shall give you from under my hand an indemnity, that I shall see it paid when due, and that you shall never be called on. After some hesitation, I consented, and I gave a reference to Kent and Avery, jewellers, Bond-street, whom I had recommended to the Queen ; and afterwards Lady Anne Hamilton went there in one of the Queen's carriages ; and Mr. Avery waited on me to thank me for the Queen's custom.

In the meantime, Mr. Knight, as the friend of
VOL. II. L

Lady Perceval, waited on me with the offers as stated in the subsequent part of these Memoirs, which I refused; and after three or four useless calls upon his part, I requested her Ladyship's address, which was given No. —, in St. James's-square, to which place I afterwards, wrote to her the letter alluded to, to say I would avail myself of her friendship in a trivial instance; and on the return of my servant, who informed me that Lady Perceval did not live there, but that Lady Francis took charge of all her letters, I thought this incident extraordinary, as Sir William W—— gave the same address. The next day, the latter placed in my hands the documents which I have stated, and immediately after they had been copied, I transmitted them as directed. Mr. Knight called in reply to my letter to Lady Perceval, and he delivered to me a letter from Lady Anne Hamilton, conveying the Queen's authority, that I was to consider myself as henceforth retained in Her Majesty's service, and that Mr. Knight had unlimited authority to supply me with money on Her Majesty's account. Sir William W—— appointed the following week to see me.

Whether all these things were accident, or that Otway was the dupe of Burke, who afterwards said that he intended to be a witness against the Queen, if, through Otway a more advantageous event had not occurred, I cannot say. Otway, being under obligations to me, on account of the liberation of Burke, he was the only person I knew to copy the papers; and Sir William W—— said, when he gave them, you know a paymaster here, Otway, he writes a good hand, get him to copy them. I did so; and it appears that Captain Otway premeditatedly, or otherwise, made a confidant in regard to the letters, and afterwards consulted with Mr. F—— to obtain them; which imposition I detected, in the supposed authority from Lord Sidmouth. Many days after, they both, though they offered £20,000 for the letters, pretended that they might not be real, as they feared being implicated; though one of these gentlemen, Captain Burke, when I detected the plans of all parties, and that I was not to be purchased, made an affidavit, that the letters were real, and the copies which they fabricated authentic. Captain Otway gave a certificate of the same, and he left the house in the full conviction that I was

denying the fact; but a curious incident placed them within the reach of each other, to compare notes and be fully satisfied. John Doe and Richard Roe were conducted both the same day, to the same house in Cary-street, where they had time to talk over politics.

I have, in a subsequent statement, mentioned the result of my applications to Doctor Lushington, and that after the already mentioned letters appeared in the public papers, I did not demand the balance of the one-year's salary due to me. And I have already stated, that I was in the King's Bench when I opposed the publication of the intended recrimination, whither I had rendered before the death of the Queen. As the salary, on which I depended, was withheld, my creditors annoyed me, while Mary Stevens took advantage of my arrest, though she had not been more than a month hired as my servant, before she considered my imprisonment a good opportunity for her. I gave her an order to bring my clothes from an hotel, where they remained until my return to Windsor; she pretended she had paid letters to

the amount of £2, and that she had paid £2 more, being a balance left unpaid at the hotel. She sent me notice that she had received all the things, that she was leaving London, and I should see her no more. These were silk dresses, and wearing apparel of the most elegant kind; and thus she left me scarcely a second thing to wear. As I knew that she had been bought over at the lodgings, when Mr. Skeet told me that Lady Anne had sent for him before he arrested me, I felt satisfied of her conduct with regard to all things besides.

Finding myself thus situated in the King's Bench, where I knew no one, I wrote to Lady Anne Hamilton, desiring her to remit me any part of what was due to me; but instead of doing so, means were used to send a private agent to a woman of the name of Dixon, of whom I had no other knowledge than having seen her talking to the woman with whom I lodged, until a vacant room offered. This Miss Dixon was well versed in every artifice, and had been living by asking assistance of any one who might have the means.

Seeing the address of Lady Anne, she, and others of her party, took the opportunity of writing to her Ladyship, under pretence that I was without a shilling of money; but, in fact, it was to give her an account of every movement of mine.

Finding myself quite without money, I wrote to Lady Perceval, and though she had brought me into such trouble, I requested, nevertheless, as a favour, that she would send me some money; but her Ladyship was too careful, and rather than write, she sent Mr. Thomas, the secret negociator in money matters. The purport of his mission was read from a paper, that her Ladyship was sorry she could not serve me. This I expected, when I found that a private agent supplied the said Miss Dixon, who was in the greatest indigence; till then, I was quite satisfied of the disposition of the party, and determined to ask no service of them.

Amongst the acquaintances of Miss Dixon and the woman I lodged with, there came to play cards in an evening, a woman of the name of

Piggot. She pretended she had heard my name in the Queen's interest, and she told me she was to have been retained as under-housekeeper, if the Queen had lived. This Mrs. Piggot had been about ten days only in the King's Bench, and she came about the time I was expecting to go. She and Miss Dixon were intimate, and neither had a room. When one of the best rooms in the prison was given me, they solicited as a favour, that I would give it to them when going away, as they could not, by any means, procure one. I therefore, on Mrs. Piggot's account, who seemed quite a stranger, promised the room, and accordingly, before I left the place I obtained the Marshal's consent to give them the room, though five and six guineas were repeatedly offered me; for so great was the scarcity of rooms, that people, if they chose to let their rooms, obtained the sum of ten and twelve pounds for their right. I despised any abject thing of that sort; and, however indignant I felt at Miss Dixon's conduct, still, seeing any female unfortunately situated, I felt pleasure in rendering a service to any one

whom I considered more unhappily situated than myself.

About five days before my departure, they mentioned the situation of a Mrs. Cradock to me. She, they said, was the wife of a clergyman, who had two wives besides. I had seen her once, and she excited some interest in my mind, when I had been told he had treated her so ill, and that he had left her without a shilling ; that she had formed the good resolution never to see him more, and that she had obtained the promise of a benefit to enable her to effect her release. I was solicited to write to some persons of rank to aid her honest efforts, as they were termed. I had written some letters, and had intended to have enclosed twenty of her tickets to one, and twenty to another ; when early in the morning, as I looked from my window, I saw a crowd of men, and two of the Marshal's officers conducting out of the prison the said Mr. Cradock, whom she had pledged never more to see. The Marshal having received intelligence that the gentleman was sleeping in the prison,

had sent his officers to conduct him out. And is this, I thought, that interesting female who formed the well-told good resolution? When I heard all the particulars, I could neither interest myself for her, nor speak to her. This excited her rage very much. Of course, I did not then know that these persons were celebrated swindlers. It appeared, that the gentleman was well known at Bow-street; but the lady, more artful and ingenious, shielded herself, by stating him to be such a bad character.

A little time before I left the King's Bench, the difficulties I was in interested a member of Parliament, a friend of mine, who sent me an authority to draw for £700 acceptances at six months, and desired that I would take a house, and he and his family would reside with me during every Session of Parliament, which would be a kind of sanction and protection to me. Before this intelligence reached me, a person sent, through Miss Dixon, and the already mentioned females who professed a knowledge of me, to ask an interview; I desired the person to be admitted.

He stated, that I had, during my stay in Gloucestershire, occupied a house, or lodgings of his, at seven guineas a week. From his account, he might, or might not, be the person he represented himself to be; my principal servant always paid my bills, when I travelled, and I saw nothing, sometimes, of the people in whose house I might have been staying. His object, he said, in calling upon me, was to recommend me an agent of a most undeniable character, and who would, upon his recommendation, be security, or any thing for me, until my affairs were settled. I felt so much obliged by this offer, that I desired him to send this supposed respectable agent—he gave his name H——. His appearance was in his favour, and I desired him to go and give his note for £15 to settle the costs in Mr. Skeet's action. He did so, and as it had been always usual with me, when ever I had any authority from my friends to empower some agent, of approved character, to receive their guarantee; before I authorised Mr. H——, I deemed some more satisfactory reference to be necessary. That I could not have, and the more I saw of the man, the

more certain I was that all was not right. Determined to be satisfied, I wrote a confidential letter to an eminent merchant in the city, when I found that they were swindlers; but this was not ascertained for some weeks after I left the prison.

The night I left the King's Bench, Mrs. Piggot and Miss Dixon appeared so grateful, that the former insisted on my accepting a scarf, which might have been worth a pound, in return for the kindness I had rendered her, in giving her my room. I refused any obligation; still they insisted upon my wearing it. I did not like to refuse, when they all seemed so determined, that I wore the scarf which they forced upon me. Before I left the King's Bench, that evening I sent to Mr. and Mrs. Law, in Lambeth-road, whose house I had formerly occupied, requesting them to prepare an apartment for me. The message was brought me, that Mrs. Law was not there, but that some friends of hers would make an arrangement for me. I expected to find friends of that family there, but they proved to be strangers. Mr. and Mrs.

Bellamy, the people of the House, seemed very civil, and I felt much indisposed for some days there. They proposed to board and lodge me for £2 a week, so long as it might suit me to stay. I wrote to my friends requesting their early arrangement, that I might take a house. The reply stated, that in less than a month, they would be in town, and that in a month I should receive the order for the £700. I merely intimated to Mrs. Bellamy that I intended to take a house, and I went in search of one.

Amongst the characters connected with Mrs. Cradock, Mrs. Piggot, and Miss Dixon, was a brother of the latter, a man about seventy, who seemed to be the remains of a gentleman. He recommended also a Mr. Eller, who was stated by the party to be a man in the Six Clerk's office, and clever in the law. The brother of Miss Dixon was equally distressed as herself; and I was well aware that at any time, a dinner was a desirable thing. I took with me those two worthy characters, the particulars of whom will be more fully seen further on; and I fixed upon a house in the Regent's Park, to

which I went shortly after to reside. While I was with Mrs. Bellamy, who succeeded Mrs. Law, she laid before me some articles of wearing apparel quite new, they were not fit for herself, and she would willingly dispose of them. Though my stock was small, under the circumstances of having been cheated by Mary Stevens of my clothes, rather than give her a refusal, as money, she said, was so great an object to her, I agreed to the trifling sum demanded. She would sometimes force me to wear this shawl, or that; but after I left her, she sent me a bill, and a demand for many things, which she pretended I had taken. I wrote in reply, after I took possession of my house, desiring to know the whole extent of every charge and demand for the fortnight, during which I had boarded and lodged with them, though only in a half empty house, they had in Brompton.

For every charge and damage, the demand of £20 was made. This demand was accompanied with a request, that I would accept a bill for 20 or £30, as they had an execution in their house, and my immediate compliance would enable

them to settle it. I accepted it, and sent it to them; they were more civil than ever. As the house was not in a habitable state, and it would require time to arrange every thing, I went to Brighton to recover my health for ten days; having there received a letter from the landlord, that every thing would be ready the following week. I came to town, and to avoid the expence of an hotel, where I had been staying a few days, before I went to Brighton, I desired lodgings to be taken in the neighbourhood of Parliament-street, as I had a great deal of business to settle in that neighbourhood.

A sinecure situation was to have been resigned by a person who held it, and was offered to me, for £1000; therefore, if it could have been so managed, and that it would have been such as would have suited me, I should have influenced my friends instead of taking a house, to have purchased it for me; but the lady who held it, was so little to be depended on, that after the period of a year and a half, the matter was neither begun, I might say, nor finished, and I was obliged to give it up

wholly. During this time, the Queen's party were preparing a battery for me; the whole whom I have named, except the landlord, were linked in the chain of persecution.

The £700 acceptances had been sent me; and in the house where I lodged, in the neighbourhood of Parliament-street, there was an Irish girl, who from the first time she saw me, kept crying and entreating, that I would take her along with me. I told her, I knew no situation she was fit for; but if she liked to go for a week, to scour and clean, I could engage no more.—The landlord assured me that I had better at once enter the house, than wait for the upholsterers to furnish; besides, he said, I was at double expence. He recommended me to take a few things, and enter my house. I intended to have followed his advice, and the next day proposed to enter it.

Meantime Miss Dixon's brother, pleaded such distress, that out of mere humanity, I told him, any thing I could do, that could benefit him, when my friends arrived, I would. I ordered furni-

ture to be hired of a broker ; but when I went to the house at seven at night, the Irish girl, whom I had sent to see that what was necessary should be ready, found not a single thing had been brought, as the man who was ordered to procure them, had got drunk. I had hired a job coach the next day, after my return from Brighton ; the coachman went to the public-house, and hired furniture, bedding, and all for a few nights ; and every thing was made as comfortable as could be.

The next day a gentleman called, whom I had often met in public, known by the name of Colonel G———; he apologised for calling, but having heard by accident, he said, that I had taken a house, he took the liberty of waiting upon me, to offer his services, and begged I would command him. I had no doubt of this gentleman's respectability, though he proved afterwards to be one of the gang of swindlers, who were set on, no doubt, by the Queen's party, to bring every thing to an effectual crisis, as the battery of their revenge was preparing, on account of my having opposed the publication of the intended recrimination. I was

not then aware, that no better than swindling houses had been established in London, and certain titled ladies, and their faithful partners in traffic, had combined together, under pretence of raising money for the Queen.

When Her Majesty was gone it was intended to publish the recrimination, as well to inflame the public mind as to make money, as the plot had cost very heavy sums. This was mutually circulated, in full confidence, amongst the parties. To this alone can I impute the advances which the swindlers made first through Mr. H——, a reputed respectable agent, and through this Colonel G——, who mentioned his agent, Mr. C——, of Palace Yard, a man, who for years had been agent to the Government, and to Lord Londonderry; and I might, he said, refer to him, if I pleased. That I considered unnecessary, as I had seen the gentleman often; and after a few calls I mentioned to him, that I had acceptances as good as the bank. He immediately expressed his readiness to get them cashed, or any other I might wish. I produced the amount of the £700

in part, to furnish the house. Those acceptances were equal to bank notes, and the day I received them I had sent a woman to call at the War Office.

Returning through St. James's Park I met a gentleman known to me, I had no doubt of his respectability and high integrity. He anxiously enquired my address, which I gave him; early the next day he called, and expressed his readiness to take upon him any exertion, in regard to the weight of furnishing the house; but I declined accepting his offer, and merely requested, that he would let me have money for the acceptances, which, as soon as I shewed them to him, he opened his purse and put down a ten pound note. Dear me, he said, I thought it was a hundred; I put this ten pound note here by mistake instead of a hundred. I know a gentleman who will discount them for five per cent; give me your receipt, in part, for this ten pound, which I can shew them, dated to-day, and by telling them that you have an urgent occasion, when I shew them the receipt, they will immediately let me have the money. I did as he required, nor did a thought

of suspicion enter my mind. He seemed in a great hurry to be at some banking-house before three o'clock, and he engaged to bring the money early the next morning.

The whole of the next day passed, I neither saw nor heard of him. The next day proved the same, he came not, nor any intelligence from him; nor had I any means left me to enquire after him than by applying at the Horse Guards, and there I could not myself go with any propriety. I sent a gentleman to make the necessary enquiries, and on his return my consternation may be judged better than described, when I found, that at the Horse Guards they knew no such person. I was incapable, for some days, of any exertion, while a person I employed brought me, daily, still more hopeless accounts. At last, it was ascertained that the gentleman had embarked for Van Diemen's land, three days after he obtained my bills; and there my hopes ended.

Left without a shilling, I dared not tell any one what had happened, except the person who

had devoted both time and attention to it; till all further enquiries became unavailing. I had ordered furniture, and all things necessary to furnish the house; but upon this final intelligence, I sent to all the trades-people to countermand that order, until the friends I expected arrived; but, in this instance, I never told any one about me of the fraud.

Miss Dixon's brother, seeing that I was waiting for money, came to me with Mr. Eller of the Six Clerk's Office, who was always with him; he stated, that the latter was purchasing some ground, that he had heavy payments to make, and therefore, if I wanted money, he could pay away my acceptances for a few hundred pounds, for which I might have the cash, without delay. Situated as I was, I was glad of this, and before they left me the bills were drawn and accepted. I made them payable to Lord Palmerston. In a few days I was to have the money, as I supposed, and I contented myself that a few hundreds would bring me round, till I could, with a better face, break the matter to my friends; but, several days passed,

and the trades-people, with whom I had weekly accounts, began to be troublesome. I sent daily after Mr. Eller and Miss Dixon's brother. A fortnight had passed since they had the bills. One morning a gentleman, in appearance, rode up to the gate, and enquiring if I was at home, requested, urgently, to see me. He was admitted, and anxiously enquired if I had not purchased a pair of horses, to which I replied that I had purchased no horses; that I could not afford to keep any, and that the carriage which he saw at the door, was one I hired by the month. He then produced my acceptances, and told me, that he had sold a pair of horses to a Mr. Eller, a Mr. ———, and a Mr. Tippings, and that for the price, he had taken bills. He produced £150, and told me, that having enquired at Lord Palmerston's, and where the bills were payable, he was so satisfied, that he let them have the horses; but that one of his men, happening to go into a livery stable, a few miles from where he lived, saw a suspicious looking man, whom he found to be no other than a Mr. Duckworth, and concluded, no doubt, that his horses, instead of being bought for my use, had

under that pretence, been bought of him and sold again. I assured him I had bought no horses, nor even thought of purchasing any; upon which he begged I would lose no time to recover my bills, as he would apply to Bow-street to recover his horses. Upon this I sent immediately for my legal adviser, and it was found unavoidable that I should apply to a Magistrate. I accordingly applied at High-street, Mary-le-bone, Mr. Griffiths, the sitting Magistrate ordered summonses immediately, and to avoid a prosecution, the parties begged ten days to make up the money to take up the bills, which they had paid away.

Amongst other things, Miss Dixon's brother had in his possession the lease of my house; and I found that the person who was recommended to me in the King's Bench to be security, was connected with all those who acted thus. I had considered from his appearance and having been told that he was a respectable agent, that he really was so; but at last, I discovered that they were all bad people. Mrs. Piggot, who was one of the female party of the King's Bench, thought no more of the scarf till

after the whole party had been detected, and the above-named persons taken up. She then sent for the shawl, which she said had been lent; but seeing it was done in revenge, I was determined not to give it. This happened after Mr. Griffiths had issued the summonses against those individuals. This detection of so many excited their revenge, that they used all possible means to disturb my peace. The females in the King's Bench gained their injured friends, as they considered those who had been taken up; and the parson's wife, for whom I had felt so great an interest. She went to the neighbourhood where I lived, and stated, to every person in business, that I had but just left the King's Bench, while she, or some one added to this, that I was the celebrated Miss Cary. This report circulated round the neighbourhood, although the Miss Cary, for whom they misrepresented me, had been that very month prosecuted, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for a misdemeanour. The report became quite current, that I was the same, although the particulars of her and her case, may be seen still upon the records of Newgate. Till I heard myself misrepresented for this lady,

I never saw her, nor even heard of her ; in consequence of this, every tradesman to whom there was even 5s. due, flocked to my house as if I were a robber, or some dreadful being : the scene is not possible to be described.

At length, frightened almost to death, at such strange conduct, I sent for a lawyer who was in the neighbourhood, who had offered his interference if necessary. He agreed for a guinea a week to attend, and to act as my agent, until my friends arrived ; and I gave up the house which he particularly advised. This put a stop to their annoyance for a little time, and was the only means left me, to save the landlord's house from becoming the prey of those people. The agreement which required to be witnessed, I had given to the care of this Miss Dixon's brother one day, and had forgotten to ask him for it ; and he, in revenge, pretended to charge me extravagantly for his time and attendance on me, upon so many occasions. In the mean time, I found that Lady Anne Hamilton, had ascertained my abode in her neighbourhood, and that she was known to have gone round

to persons I dealt with, to represent me as she pleased, to gratify her revenge; and thus I was persecuted in so great a manner, that a Mr. ———, of Oxford street, was added to the list, of whom some hangings were ordered, whether he felt disappointed when the order was postponed, or that Lady Anne's representation had effect. That morning also, the coachman of a person, who keeps livery stables in Lisson Grove, the same who took me to Windsor, and who was most strongly suspected with regard to the papers taken out of the carriage at the Castle Inn, Windsor, called exultingly, as if he had been told that trades-people were troublesome, and demanded £4 beside the £4 which I had paid for the hire of the carriage at Windsor.

The lawyer I employed, and this man were neighbours, and he, no doubt, found that to be in favour with one exalted lady in the neighbourhood was expedient; whether this had the desired effect or not, I cannot tell; but, certain it is, that I discovered I was surrounded by wickedness, and looked upon for a woman I knew no more of, than having read in the public papers an account of her, commonly

known by the name of Miss Cary, who a few weeks before had been criminally prosecuted, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, as the date of her commitment might be ascertained. Upon hearing that I was represented to be the celebrated Miss Cary, I was particularly urged by my friends to put a stop to these unfounded calumnies, by inserting a letter of refutation in the public papers. However, I refused to do so then, upon the same principle, that has hitherto deterred me from appearing in public. The consequence has been, that on many occasions by my being mistaken for the above individual, I have encountered, and still suffer indescribable inconvenience, though I know nothing of that individual, beyond what is before the world at large.

The day I occupied Mr. Hunt Andrew's house in the Regent's Park, up to the time I resigned it, will shew that I could not be the person, for whom I was misrepresented and exposed, on account of my name, to every insult and annoyance. This lawyer behaved particularly well at first; he had a wife and many children, and was in great

poverty; and from whatever cause he meditated the foregoing fact, I know not; but I saw the unavoidable necessity of setting out to where the family was, for whom I had taken the house, and in person, to break to them all that had befallen me. I dared not venture to write, so I fixed upon leaving the servant in the house, who was with me. She was the daughter of an honest poor woman, who had lived many years in the Alpha Cottages: both the mother and the daughter conducted themselves with such propriety, that I left all to their care. I intended to set out to ———, where the family was, which was the distance of fifty-six miles, and I prepared to return on the second day. To this end, I bade the young woman take to her mother's care, any thing that was of any value until my return.

The Irish servant, whom I had hired, became a drunkard, and robbed the house of glass, &c. which she had secreted with her colleagues in the neighbourhood; and, upon finding that she and the coachman had run up long bills for liquors, ale, &c. I was determined she should go. The coachman

was hired by the month, therefore, till then, I would not part with him, though he had made most extravagant demands. Both those worthless beings seeing I was at a stand for money, came up stairs as I sat at breakfast, and the coachman, who considered himself of more eloquence and talent, shewed me that both were, upon pay, to become useful in any way. Madam, he said, Anne and I, see that much depends on the conduct of faithful servants, we will exert ourselves, and we will say any thing to get time from any one you are indebted to, and we will say every thing that can induce any one to give you credit, if you pay us well: we have both managed it, said the Irish girl. Have you, indeed, I said? Then I shall manage that you shall go this night; I shall pay you for the fortnight you have been, to-day; and I sent for one or two gentlemen, and told them, I insisted on her going; but, till the following evening, she could not be got out of the house, and after the gentlemen were gone, she alarmed me so much, that if she had not arranged to bring robbers in to murder me, I expected no less from her manner.

A boy about eleven years old, the son of General C——, called by his mother's desire to see me, no other human being was near me; the boy equally frightened, would not leave me; we both sat up all night. She carried away in the morning, tea, sugar, cold meat, wine, plates, dishes, and every thing she chose; neither of us dared to prevent her. And having secured them with some of her companions, she left me about twelve o'clock the next day, having been profuse of her abuse, as soon as I had paid her wages. Never did I see the crime of murder, I thought, depicted in any countenance, as in this woman's; all that she had carried away, was in the hope that either the boy or myself might interrupt her; as she had snatched a knife from the table before me that night, and swore with an oath, that she would settle my business, as she called it, before she left. My situation, (being left alone with only a boy about eleven, and no other persons in the house,) prevented any one from interrupting her ravages. And when any one that I wrote for came, she took care to decamp before the time of their arrival. Search was made for her, in Parliament-street,

but she did not go there ; or if she did, no trace was left to discover her abode. I hired a neighbour's daughter, whom I intended to leave in the house, and went to town in the carriage to make my arrangements ; while I was gone, the publican entered with a person he stated to be an officer, and carried away with him two pieces of cloth, which was to have lined some furniture ; the value of the furniture and cloth for window curtains, was about thirty shillings ; this was taken for the standing of the horses, and the liquors, which the coachman and Anne had obtained without my knowledge.

In order to avoid entering another week upon the lodgings in P—— street, I ordered fires to be lighted in the house, the rent of which was running on ; and upon the advice of Mrs. Bellamy, who lent a mattress, till furniture could be sent in, I entered, without delay, upon the possession of the house, as I was assured that the upholsterer would furnish quicker if I were in it. The distance from the Regent's Park to Mrs. Bellamy, prevented more than one bed and bedding being sent. The coachman assured us, that we

could hire what common furniture we wanted; therefore I ordered in a few kitchen utensils, &c. and, as the carriage put up at the public house, they sent up a couple of tables and chairs; I refused any thing more. I saw that the conduct of the publican was spurred on by the disappointed coachman and the worthy maid.

I bade Jane, who was my neighbour's daughter, who shuddered at such ravages as were committed, to convey all other things of value to her mother's, till my return. So the curtains were taken down from the drawing-room window, and any thing of value was sent to her mother's care. I intended, at three o'clock the next day, to have left town. The lawyer met Jane out, and having enjoined her to secrecy, told her, that they could, while I was gone, carry off all that was of any value in the house, and would divide the benefits between them. The girl shuddered, but was so afraid of the man, that she promised secrecy; but instantly told me.

Nature had ever planted in my heart, so great

a horror of treachery and deception, that I never could form my countenance to smile, while a conviction of something dishonest rested on my mind. I spurned the wretch who could try to lead this unsuspecting girl to such a part; though my arrangements were made, and my situation, such as any one may judge, when he entered, I shuddered with horror, and forbade his ever entering the door again, and told him that his designs were frustrated. I did not intend to leave the house in this manner, as there was property in it, and a piano-forte, hired of Mr. K———.

That night the lawyer went to the house of Mr. ———, in Oxford-street, whose name I do not recollect, and informed him that the curtains had been sold, or pledged; that the cloth bought of him had been taken by the publican, though the whole amount left unpaid to this man, was not £3; but as I knew that the Queen's friends, as well as the wicked people, into whose hands I had fallen, had some share in all that was done, I became determined to let, or resign the house. That night, the same Mr. ———, from Oxford-

street, about eight o'clock at night, entered my house, with a pair of pistols, and quite intoxicated, apparently with a determination to murder us all. He then took his stand at the parlour door, where I sat, and swore that no one should enter, or go out, if any one attempted, he would shoot them, and seemed to look to the outer door, as if expecting a gang. After some minutes waiting, he ran to the gate, as if to open it; in this moment of terror I sprang through the window, which was quite low, and the garden wall, which separated my neighbour's garden from me, being also very low, I got over it. In an instant I heard a dreadful ringing at the gate. Terrified almost to death, I listened, and could distinguish violent blows of something against the outer gate, which closed after him as he ran into the street, where the lawyer was, as I afterwards understood, and many common people with him. The front walls were too high to be got over, and when the door closed, no force could open it from that side. As long as the bell continued unbroken he continued to ring; but finding all access to the house impossible, he went away, leaving me more dead, with fear, than alive.

That night I did not go to bed, and early in the morning I sent to Miss Dixon's brother to resign the agreement of the house, as I intended to give it up to the landlord. He peremptorily insisted that I should quit it; that he intended to occupy it himself, or let it, and that neither the landlord, nor I, should have it; it was his, and he would do as he pleased. Good God! I thought, is it possible that such a gang of villains can be screened from justice? And to preserve the landlord's property, I instantly sent for him, and put him into possession, and removed all the securities that he required.

I intended the next day to leave, and desired Jane to take the kitchen furniture, and other things, to her mother. The lawyer, seeing the honesty of Jane thus rewarded, became more enraged. Before night Mr. B——, of whom I had hired the carriage, sent two officers to arrest me. Fortunately, or unfortunately, the servant assured them I was in town and that she did not expect me till morning. They had not been long gone, before an officer of the name of

W——, was sent by Mr. ———, of Oxford-street, to demand the cloth which the publican had taken away. Upon hearing the fact from me, he was so shocked at his employer, that he assured me, if he had been aware of the matter, he would not have taken a hundred pounds to have troubled me upon such a representation, and he left the house immediately, and gave his card, if necessary at any time to call upon him.

Before night some officers came with writs for those debts on which I had been in the Rules, and for which I had given a renewal of securities which had been over due, although the holders had engaged to keep them, to avoid incurring any expence upon them, till such time as it would be convenient to me to settle them. They were instigated, under some idea, to arrest me, and they had all made sure of their prey the next day; but about ten o'clock at night, dressed in Jane's attire, accompanied by her mother, for no other human being, that I knew, were to be intrusted, we walked out, even though the officers were on the watch. We proceeded as far as Paddington-street

before we could meet with any coach. I had two days, successively, written to Mrs. Bellamy, to inform her of all that had occurred, and had proposed to pass a few days with her; but fearful that I should be discovered there, the next morning early, her daughter and I took a lodging near her, in an obscure street. Mr. De B—— knew that she was the person I had the most reliance upon, he finding I had left the Regent's Park, went to her, and she intrusted him with my address.

From the day that I had entered the house in the Regent's Park I did not owe £10, although I experienced all this treatment, the truth of which may be easily ascertained. Although I had resided with Mrs. Bellamy only a month, she daily persuaded me to take the house, that at some unguarded moment I gave her a half promise, which she hoped might be fulfilled, until I informed her that I had taken one in the Regent's Park. I had not been there a fortnight when she called on me, and professing all possible friendship, on that account I went again to Lambeth; but shortly after, she sent the officers to the place where I lodged.

I was arrested during the vacation ; there was no Judge in town, nor even any friend of mine.

The arrest took place in the county of Surry, and after having been some days at the lock-up house, some of the persecuting party threatened the people of the lock-up house, that if they did not render me the following day to prison, as the writ was then returnable, they would come upon the Sheriffs for my debts. My habeas was lodged ; but, as it could not be signed for a day or two, the party took advantage of this, and Mr. Skeat who arrested me, under the influence of Mr. Knight, and Lady Anne Hamilton, in my own hearing, told Mr. Faulkner, the proprietor of the house, all that he threatened to do ; and after this he dared not allow my stay till my habeas should be signed by a Judge. Horsemonger-lane is the county prison for debtors, arrested in the county of Surry ; and though told that the debtors were quite in another part of the building, still the horror the name of the place excited in my mind, may be better judged than I can describe.

Mr. Faulkner and the family, told me how good a man the Keeper, and all his people were; still it was dreadful to think of, and ere a few days, I found their conduct and the place I was in, better than even the account they gave of it; but the fear and anticipation of approaching it, inspired the following ideas in my mind. The drowsy clock had numbered eight, its sound thrilled through me. Now then, lead on, I said, as the officers entered, and do thou follow. In silence quickly we passed along through bye ways, unknown and solitary. In about ten minutes, the gloom overcast from the darkening shade of the prison appeared to view, and by the dim light of the lamps looked fearful, as the loud knocker sounded the usual token. The tremendous doors opened with a heavy noise. We entered; all was still, dark, and dismal. Two men, one of cheerful mien, bade me be composed. He saw my terror, I thought. Can any feeling be found in the mind of any here? I raised a fearful eye, he looked kind, and like other men; and with a friendly voice, he said, Madam, take a seat, be not alarmed; you will not, be assured, find this

place half so bad, as it may have been represented to you. I tried to raise my eyes again, but the gloom around, cast a disgusting shade, and my heart sickened the more. I had rested ten minutes when my debts were entered in a book; then a man in a long brown coat walked across the room, and as he walked he looked at me, and I thought it proclaimed some hidden movement as to say, I must do that which may appal thy soul. In an instant a noise like chains, the first I heard, such as they use in these places, I had never yet seen them; the sound ran through my heart, and I started. Gracious God! I thought, am I to be chained down like wicked people! and my eye ran in search of him from whose hand the sound issued. Do not be alarmed, he said, it is only the keys; the ponderous keys weighed his hand down. Mercy! I thought, am I to be locked up, perhaps in some cold damp cell, where not a ray of cheering light or warmth can penetrate! Ah! what a fate is mine! Be so good, he said, to come this way. I followed, but it was like the step of one whom the law condemns to death; and as I went on, my heart recoiled back. He opened a large gate, and we

crossed a court-yard paved with square stones, and descending steep steps, he bade me follow. What! I faltered; under earth? No, never fear; and he held his lamp as I descended a wide, dark, unilluminated long stone passage. He unlocked a door, which opened with a noise like thunder, and leading through a narrow damp space, we ascended by steps to a wide empty hall. This hall, which seemed wild and desolate, was pillared, the wind whistled through its vacant space. Its rough features were dimly revealed by the darkening shade of his lamp, inspiring terrific and appalling fear, as the lurid gloom and disconsolate interior of that unsocial place appeared, which seemed more the abode of evil spirits and wretched ghosts, that walk at dead of night and clank their chains, and light the torch of horror, chilling every feeling. These walls and pillars bear the outlines of horror, unadorned by the hand of art, their terrific rude appearance, added to the scene, and the chill air exhaling damps, seemed to seize upon the breath. Wild dark shades overcast the place; the walls dripping their unwholesome dew upon the still more moistened floor, the hollow gusts of wind that sorrowfully howled through the

horrific place, were melancholy emblems which anticipated horror.

Here, indeed, sighed my heart, is a region of eternal horror! this is not an abode for mortals, no friendly or social being can ever have been an inhabitant here! This place must be the haunt of wandering spirits! We slowly crossed this fear-inspiring place, by the faint ray of the lamp, when an iron terrific portal was dimly revealed; black with the rust of time, its grim appearance struck more horror to my soul, than all I had seen. It opened with a dreadful noise, which was succeeded by the loud voice of my conductor; and in an instant, the stone steps of the winding stairs, appeared from the faint rays of a light, while the hollow sound of a footstep, announced some human inhabitant approaching. A female, tall and agitated, holding a candle, bade me ascend; and as she spoke, the huge door closed with a tremendous sound. In an instant, my conductor vanished through the gloom; I passed breathless, and chilled with death-like fear. I followed till we entered a room on

the first floor, whose arched ceilings, rough walls, and flagged floor, announced a prison indeed!

My conductor spoke, but an almost lifeless look at her, was the only reply I could give; but her voice consoled me, as she said, be not so alarmed, you are safe you have now passed all further annoyance; I felt as you did, but now I am more reconciled to the place. And are you an inhabitant of this dread abode? Yes, she said; and as I drew my breath she recounted over her history, and as she told, she cheered me into forgetfulness. Each word seemed to bring my frightened senses back again; for I am certain they had fled till her voice recalled them. She stirred up the fire, and put on the kettle, saying, some tea will cheer you; she speedily made some, and ere an hour had passed, I felt warm animation return to my frightened heart again. And this, I said, is a prison for debt! the crime of the blackest dye could not merit more. Here, then, like the wandering ghosts, who, for want of money, are refused a passage across the Styx, to the opposite shades of liberty, I must remain

for how many years, or how long shall we wander here !

The melancholy sound of the prison clock was answered by the still more dismal cry of the watchman, who called "past eleven o'clock, all is well." Alas! sighed my heart, and a pang pierced it the more, all is not well; all was well when ———— snatched the seal, and said it will be all well, when I read one of these days, your marriage in the papers; but, since the rays of his friendship, like those of the cold moon on a drooping flower, have been banished from me, all has not been well. And is this now the fate of Caroline? those words, all is well, brings secret cares to my troubled heart. They chase away horror, because no sting belongs to them. They are the tender sorrows for dear lost friendship, upon which I dwelt; here nothing remains but its remembrance.

Well, I wish I may forget that monster, or rather that fury of a woman who dictated my arrest. For an act of kindness, to save herself and family from the open streets, I lent her my name,

and though she plighted every faith to pay it, as soon as it was due, because she found my union with Colonel M—— was fixed, she thought the sum would be a trifling object on such an occasion. I wish I might, but I shall not be able to forget her, or the monster not unlike her, who sent me here. Here, indeed, there is no flattery; this is no enchanted castle to which I am conveyed; the gates are strong and massy, that they seem to defy fate herself to force them open for me to pass. Not even the lyre of Orpheus shall charm Cerberus from his post, though money might do it. As Homer's heroes never succeeded till they had first prayed, so will I rise, and shut my door and pray to God to protect me, and not to desert me. Now, indeed, more than ever, I need thee; these rough walls, black with the rust of time, seem like the haunt of evil spirits and shapes, that walk at dead of night, and clank their chains. Then, oh God! inspire my mind with fortitude to bear, and chase from me, and keep away each vile idea that my agitated mind gives birth to.

I counted each tedious hour, oppressed with

appalling fear. No noise broke in upon the repose of the place, except now and then the clank of the terrific keys, and the melancholy voice of the night watch beneath my window. Although the night was calm the wind whistled through the casements and long passages, which seemed to create a sound like the groans of misery, which were incessantly echoed by my restless moans, for my heart was heavy laden with sore grief, and each moan seemed as if I had put off some of the weight that oppressed me. But alas! it weighed me down to perfect weakness the more. Scarce had my eyes closed in uneasy slumbers, as the ray of light that gleamed through my grated window dimmed my sight, than I was awakened by the sound of a tremendous bell which, as my affrighted fancy pictured, seemed to repeat—Felons come! felons come! felons come! Shaking off sleep, I started, forgetting where I was; my companion, who slept in the next bed to me, said, it is to call the felons up. Where are they? I enquired. They are divided from the debtors entirely, by a wide court, and well secured by an iron fence; besides, she said, they are ironed, you need not

fear, they cannot come near us. I should like to see them, I never saw any. Then go, in five minutes across the passage, and unlatch the opposite door of the room to that in which we now are, put back the window which slides, then you will see such a sight as you never saw, one that you will not like. I did so; when, dreadful to behold upon the flags; and scattered about, lay, like herds of cattle, men fierce and rude, old and young, boys scarce fourteen, all in separate courts, well defended from the rest; women, young and old, hardened to every sense of feeling, or decency, and lost to any thought of their situation. All appeared before me, some singing, others dancing, while others more serious, and oppressed with grief, seemed to drag their wretched sins and chains along.

Alas! I thought, as the tears forced their way, this, indeed, is a sight, a grievous one! The errors of life are there chastised, indeed! Unfortunate wretches; human beings reduced to the state of the brute creation; but worse, they are fettered with irons, this is a source of pain to the good. Perhaps, to the want of education

many owe their errors, others, from their wicked crimes, some from want, and many, perhaps, innocently led to error, not knowing what they did, or, at least, supposing little harm. But, beyond all others, he, who is the victim of some private malignity, is the most to be lamented ; he may be good and pure, though in that dreadful throng. They must become corrupted, indeed, horrible creatures ! What word is that escaped my lips ? they are my degraded fellow-creatures, and may God correct their hearts ; let no harsh word escape me, the unfortunate has ever claimed my pity, and more than a tear I cannot give. Erring nature is punished by a sense of their crimes, but, perhaps, there are hearts too hard to feel. How terrible to offenders is the law ! What then is it to the innocent ? This, indeed, is a dreadful place.

I returned to my companion again, and the weight of my woes made me close my eyes, but the restless misery of thought kept me awake. The sun began to shine bright through my grated window ; but what avails it, I thought ! while all around me is dark, dreary, and desolate. It smiles

only at the wreck of fortune; and in my present state I could not rest; no, not five minutes.

On a sudden, a loud noise like the hollow peal of thunder was heard. Mercy, I said, what can that be, thunder? No, she said, it is the door of our hall that is opened, it always makes that dreadful sound. I arose, I descended the stairs, I walked, I tried to read; I sat on the window that overlooked the fields afar; but read I could not, and rest was not to be found. What a death-like calm overhangs the prison's gloom, as dark and dismal as the hue of those unfortunate wretches, who scattered, lay upon the cold flags but an hour since, now confined to their dreary cells to ruminate on their miseries till morning dawn gives them a momentary respite again from woes. The sun, in whose rays they bask upon the flags, but pains them the more, as their state is corroded with cares, and the blackest crimes. Oh! human nature! how much are their errors to be lamented! In a few days, perhaps, they must become exiles from the land that gave them birth; the bed of their wives, and the cradle of

their children. . That bright sun that rises in the arch of heaven, shines, but will bring them no joy; they are cut off from every tie dear to them in this world, to pine in misery in a desert land, beneath a strange sky.

When I look around this scene, what ideas crowd into my mind, that I should become an inhabitant of so vile an abode; who would, who could credit it? There is not even a bird that wings the air, that I have yet seen approach this place, but would shun it. Is this the joy, is this the unchangeable fortune, promised once the daughter of the Duke of ———? Yes, so it is. Yet, be patient, my heart! beat not so high from this place, even from this, where good and virtuous actions still guide and raise me superior to every thing vile among weeds, yet even the lowest place may be dignified by the inhabitant. Exemplary fortitude and integrity, under such trials as mine, are necessary; therefore, the mind, by what it is, rather than the situation, should be guided. Reports are often false, they are mere words; but deeds and honourable

acts, are often unnoticed, when acts that ill deserve it, gain applause. Thus my Lord of ———, when the remembrance of you, steals into my deep study of thought, the feelings it inspires, leave a heaviness and a pain, that never arise except where deeds concealed, call forth their attendant train. Though no outward signs of apparent unhappiness are discernable in your splendid halls, yet when the sable bird of night sinks to rest, and the unhappy ghosts of the youthful victims of your crimes, who though dishonoured are yet the watching spirits, borne on the solemn winds; do you not then, my Lord hear in the gale their woeful lamentations, when the cricket hums presageful of their approach around your dwelling. Does not your soul turn sick at the approach of night? Hast thou then ever dared to behold the silent moon? if thou hadst, she would have hid behind her veil, affrighted at the fate of M———, whose soul's purity you destroyed for ever; the hour of midnight must indeed be dreadful to you, it must be a hated hour indeed when your thoughts sink deep into your own mind, what means do you resort to, to fly from yourself? Whether the overflowing goblet, or the scene of

profanation you seek, each step resounds with the cries of the innocent you have sacrificed; when perchance weary with the wreck of thought, and you should ever ere the morning dawn, repose upon your gilded couch, you must find it surrounded with —, and your mind endures unheard of torments, and all the hereafter woes that await guilt. When thy congealed blood freezes at the approach of day, when thou shalt stand impleaded at the high tribunal of justice, who will then advocate your cause in defence of her whose angel spirit rose at midnight hour, that hour so feared by you? when from the depth of death's immeasurable region, that hidden country unrevealed by no mortal grandeur, or by mortal ken where they have sent her, when beyond all worldly injury she rises before thee, what then awaits thee? What is he who could corrupt her, and by whose arts she fell. Then arrest the few days you have, amend your life, seek to promote the pursuits of virtue, black as is the page of your book, repent; and may God forgive you! The ideas of your secret acts, so well known to me, accord with the horrors of this place; and what greater motive for amendment can you have, than this as-

surance from one you say you love? Still, you pursue, with unsatiable revenge, one, you say, you sometimes fear, as her stern firmness repulses your most determined resolutions. That I lament your crimes, and should be glad if I could lock my door upon the ideas of you, as I could shut out the view of all around me here. Fly, ye unsocial thoughts to some eternal murky den, where not a ray of light, nor the voice of man shall come near, rest from sounds like mine, in your own eternal silence. Heaven has never destined the flower that blooms in adversity to be trampled on by obtruding unpleasant thoughts. The human mind is like a garden, but here is a season, though quite out of the calendar of any I ever yet witnessed ; it is a chaos in my life yet salutary.

Thus when reflections filled my mind, my thoughts were broken by my companion here. Scarce a week has passed over me, since I first came, and yet she daily plagues me. And what would you do, she said, if I had not been here, you must have sat up all night in a cold empty room, without fire or candle, and I hope they have not

brought you here, as I was brought, without a shilling of money? I made no reply, it was sufficient to know I came the same road. I had been robbed at the lock-up house, and had not C—— brought me some silver, I should have remained without money till my clothes had been brought, that I might dispose of, at least, all the unnecessary articles. This was the only alternative left me for existence, being firmly resolved, let what fate would await me, not to either disclose my situation, or to ask a favour, for favours, even from the best of friends, or the most exalted, become sooner or later grievous evils.

How difficult it is to bear with proper dignity of mind, such trials of fate as these! firm, indeed, and raised beyond grovelling ideas must be the mind that can sustain itself with gentle and becoming resignation, in trials like these. Again, she said, I cannot for the life of me, tell who or what you are? I am sure if I were you, I would see the men far enough, before they should have left me as you are without sufficient at least to keep you respectable; for you seem to have neither clothes, friends,

nor money ; if you have not, you had better apply immediately at the Thatched House. Such are the ideas some persons entertain of respectability ! There are in mortal forms, souls that seem to have little idea beyond their own gratifications ; such indeed, was my companion, whose liberal opinions and strange language determined me that night to quit, though without furniture, bed, or any thing necessary ; and if even I had, I knew not how to use them ! therefore, like a helpless infant, I sat in the window that overlooked the public yard, absorbed in every faculty. After deep and serious reflections, I retired to my empty room and wrote a note, desiring to see the Governor, or to have such furniture, as the place afforded, and if he could not send bedding and such as his family could spare, he was to send such as is usually allowed, provided he could send one which had never been slept upon by any prisoner. He immediately attended, and having expressed that he could not send better than the prison allowed ; said he would send such as had never been used by any one. His men brought them ; and now behold her, who, but a few days before, was to have been led to the bridal bed,

with rank, fortune, youth, and every thing that could promise happiness, now arranging her accommodations with her own hands: she who was used to command. Where now art thou? Oh fortitude, wilt thou uphold me even still? Yes! this coarse mattress and corresponding things, will be better borne with by me than the gorgeous gilded palace without virtue and integrity; for virtue has an immortal reward. These privations my delicate nature may feel, but it is a trifling sacrifice. There is an hereafter, where already, years of my sorrows are recorded, and where those to come, are daily viewed. Therefore, in this solitude and severe trial, must I keep watch, that I omit no duty which my Creator expects me to fulfil to myself. I must learn to take care of myself; what is it in this hour that supports me, situated thus? it is that inward something in my mind, which tells me I have not deserved this fate? But He even will have it so, and I bend the knee in submission, though left thus in this vile wretchedness; yet I have seen a star through the darkening brambles and gloom, retain its native light, though the shadows obscured it

for a time, still its rays penetrate the gloomy desert and it rises in its light serenity again.

I have felt the influence of virtue over my soul when enchantments would steal upon debilitating reason, that influence quicker than thought over me has long been my guide with thee; I have encountered many perils too great and incomprehensible to a weak and ordinary mind. Now, then, I here can equally shield against weakness, pride, and folly, as I have ever done against vice; teach me to bear with gentle resignation my fate, here in this cold dark and dreary cell, that like the tomb encloses one whose heart beats still with the friendliest animation when thoughts of —— appear likethe consoling angel! It glides across my troubled mind even now. In excess of joy or sorrow, the mind would impart its feelings to the object dearest; but mine, like my fate, is unfortunate, still no other shall ever hold empire in my mind: couldst thou now visit this scene, and see the dim taper that burns upon my deal table, and dimly reveals the desolation that encompasses one, who was esteemed by all, now

neglected; except by the seraphs whose watchful care will even here, keep all ills far away.

This weary bed which is to be mine this night, this cold uncarpeted flag upon which I softly tread, is not half so injurious to the most delicate nature, as this wicked world. The bricked wall whitened over, and here and there, the red one obtruding its disagreeable head, though it chills with irksome sense, yet, if it can afford shelter to one who values rectitude and purity of mind, its rough appearance may be as much as possible overlooked, since to that one consideration, its sole advantage is to be derived. Yet those iron bars black and rusted; those sable doors and grated windows, are no flatterers, they strike with cold horror the worst emotions; thus human nature forgets her former heroism to C——, and owns that this place can chill the heart to ——. I will not be cast down: I have had days of joy, why not bear this interval? Since it is said, he whom God loveth, he chastiseth; yet I feel that reliance upon my Creator, that I could bear even more than this. That beggarly bed! I will not lie on it. What! what the daughter of

the Duke of ——— here :—John, Edward, order the carriage? Where! where! oh! my brain is on fire, shall I stretch upon that cold flag, no, I will bear it a little longer; I will be patient. Who knocks? It is my companion. Are you ill? No, no. I thought I heard you talk. I am reading; Good night! that tiresome woman comes again.

This world, its grandeur, follies, what are they? the school of misery! it is a hard lesson to learn to suffer, yet he or she who knows it not, is born for nothing. One morning, I descended to the hall, to feed the sparrows which daily used to fly to me, since I first accustomed them to eat bread. The instant I called sweet, sweet, they would fly in dozens from the high walls, to where I stood. This was my only recreation, and so numerous were they, that of twopenny-worth of bread daily, the crust was all that was left. This brought to my mind, the saying of an ancient writer, that there is no situation, however barren, in which we may be placed, but the mind may find something to be amused with. I regretted leaving my poor birds, who were so accustomed to receive their food daily

from my hand ; and as often as I see a sparrow, my flocks of them will not be forgotten. To the credit of the Keeper of that place, I will say, that whatsoever influence was used, public or private, it influenced not him towards me ; and after the first horror was over, I acknowledged the civility and respect I experienced from every one belonging to the place ; and found that the apartments appropriated for female debtors, were wholly inaccessible to men or women, except one's own friends. I began to be more reconciled, though unhappy, but in my life, from any description of people, I never met more respectful treatment than while there. While feeding my flock, which in dozens were picking their pieces and crumbs of bread, in the yard around me, Jane, my old servant, who was engaged to be married the Sunday after I left the Regent's Park, came to see me with her husband. I had heard that a lady, a new prisoner, had been brought in some days before, but I had not seen her ; she then descended the stairs to cross the hall, before she saw us. Upon seeing Jane, she started. Jane exclaimed, Madam, that is one of the ladies in black, who went all over the Regent's Park, to

represent you for the Miss Cary, who is now in Newgate.

Good God ! I thought, that is Mrs. Cradock, and now what a conviction flashes upon my mind. I recollect, she mentioned when in the King's Bench, that she was intimate with Lady Anne ; and I have seen her father and mother, I now remember, in the King's Bench ; and they are Scotch people. She had proceeded too far to return, but crossing the hall, her countenance shewed her guilt, and the next day, she accosted me as I descended. She stated, that Miss Dixon and others, had influenced her to go, and say, and do, all she had ; I merely listened, but withdrew like one who discovers a serpent in the grass.

So perfectly did this woman carry on the game of artifice, and pretended simplicity and rectitude, that finding herself rendered within the walls, where they all knew I was, she begged of the governor that she might have a room to herself, and not near the celebrated Miss Cary, the mistress of so many people, who was there. Mr. Walters

assured her that there were but four rooms, and but four ladies, and however she feared the contagious breath of the lady, he should be under the necessity of placing her with Mrs. Brown, who was a woman of that description, for there is something in appearances which sometimes kens the party who are most fit for each other's society.

Mrs. Cradock, who was there in the name of Miss Grey, met a Miss C——, an amiable respectable lady, who happened to be there, and who was the first who received me on my entrance, and who, from the shock she herself had received, was always the first to offer consolation to any one, be they rich or poor, who came there. This feeling led her to conduct the new comer to her room, where she briefly related so interesting a tale, that Miss C—— seemed charmed. She informed her that she was arrested just as she was going to be married to her own first cousin, a Mr. G——, who was arrested with her, and was rendered to the men's side; and she thought it hard she should not be allowed to see him while they were confined. This was to be kept secret by Miss

C——. But one day after this occurrence Miss C—— was in the hall—what, I said, you have the celebrated Mrs. Cradock with you. Who do you mean, said Miss C——, angrily? I mean the Parson's wife. I know no such person, she said, the lady who is with me is quite a different person, and is to be married to a gentleman, who is in the other side. I know her well, and I think you mentioned to me that you know Mr. D—— F—— in the King's Bench; send to him, and ask him who the lady is. It is the same who is within your room now. She still seemed to disbelieve it; she went to her, and asked her if she had ever been in the King's Bench. No, she never had, she said. Miss C——, to be more satisfied, sent for a person, who very soon proved it; and she then told me that she had represented me for the celebrated Miss Cary. Miss C——, horror struck after this, would not come even near her.

That very week, as fate so destined, she and I were the only inhabitants left in the place, all beside, were freed. What was to be done in the

abode of terror?—Still the fear of the dead was not half so great as of her. For a day or two we were as far a-part as any opposite characters could be. On the third day she tapped at my door, and in a voice that inspired terror, told me she was fearful she should die; that she had slowly crept from her bed, and would I allow her to have some boiling water. At her manner and situation, which I knew, in defiance of all constrained appearances, were the most unfortunate; for her parents shunned her, and all were as justly united against her, my heart, for a moment, gave way, and the feelings of human nature succeeded in its place. Let her be all that she is, she is a fellow creature, I will treat her with humanity in return for her injustice; it may be salutary.

For three days, and almost nights, I omitted no duty that feeling and humanity could inspire; and I felt an inward satisfaction, that disgust was softened down into compassion, and I found that I had strength of mind to act with rectitude under any influence of passion. As soon as she recovered

I resolved to see her no more, but, until then, to omit no duty to one whom I considered more unfortunate than myself; though not so much in a pecuniary way. Soon after she recovered, she repaid me.

As the gates were barred at six o'clock, and no admittance till nine the next morning, my attendance so much upon her in her illness, obliged me, for some days, to take my meals there. As soon as she was able to be up I retired to my own apartment; but she particularly wished me not to leave her, and requested I would take breakfasts and such dinners as her mother, Mrs. St. Clair, could afford to send her. She solemnly assured me that Mr. Grey, who was a prisoner on the other side, was her first cousin, that he had lent her his name, and that both were arrested upon the same debt. I was well aware that the world was ever ready to put the worst construction upon every thing, and I saw that my paying her might be an object, situated as she was. She assured me her mother would not allow her to have a shilling of money to assist her cousin with. I consented

might let it remain with her mother, with my things, until I received money to get it; that it was given me under circumstances, that I did not intend to keep it; as it was the only revenge they could have was to ask for it, I was determined, at any time, not to part with it. She joyfully accepted the offer, and after she had used it, I sent repeatedly to her for it. She at last informed me that it was not mine, and therefore she had sent it to Mrs. Piggot. This was the reward of my good nature, and woman's artifice never attained its perfection, more than in those three women. Indeed, women I should not call them, Miss Grey, Miss Dixon, and Mrs. Piggot.

In addition to the already stated revenge of the party, this further provocation was offered. An application had been made to a gentleman of my acquaintance to advance £10,000 upon the bonds of a Mr. C—— who was stated to be heir to A. Gordon, Esq.; that £500 would be the portion of Mr. C——, that Mr. A. Gordon was an hundred years of age, and that the Duke of

Gordon had all in trust. I wrote to oblige the gentleman, who was an acquaintance, and who would have sent the money, had I not forbid it. And I shortly afterwards ascertained from the Duke that no such claim ever existed, and I found that Miss Grey and Mr. P——, an attorney, in the very place, were in this business; and being aware of the nature, I bade the gentleman tell them that he had his authority from me; that the whole was an effort to defraud him of his money.

The next day the shawl business was renewed, but I treated it, and the party, with the utmost horror and contempt. Circumstances of the greatest importance immediately occurred, and there were but two individuals connected with the party in question, to whom it might be any way prejudicial to disclose it. The situation I was in, was against me; people, and strangers in particular, would be frightened even to enter the place. One of the party was one of the heads of a certain place, Sir C—— the other, who, though of the Queen's party, still, he bore an upright character, and

I had often met him at the house of my friends. I wrote to Mr. M——, who very politely came, but was unable to see him myself, and the person who answered all enquiries did not tell me till he had left the prison; I was then engaged the whole day with Mr. Becket and Mr. B——, who were preparing my case for the Court, and I had unfortunately given orders that no message should even be delivered to me. I left shortly after, and there the matter ended.

Sir C—— called before ten the next day, and before I was scarcely up, stated that he was a friend of Lord C——, and asked if I would tell him my business; upon being told that it could be only done in person, he questioned the turnkey as to my pecuniary affairs, and for fear I might have asked for money he said he would write, which he did next day, stating, that he was sorry he could not prolong his stay in town, as he was going that night to Paris.

From these scenes, no valorous knight with sword or shield, unbarred my prison door, but father time,

in the venerable form of the Duke of R———
His friendship was peculiarly eventful at this time ;
like the champion of virtue, he sent greeting, but
more the manner was still greater, and generous
like that of his parent to whom I owed so much.
I indulged the most pleasing idea, that this friend-
ship might be durable. It was so for a time, but
no sooner had I discovered certain circumstances,
than I foresaw that the friendship would soon end,
since I was aware that the object of Lady Elizabeth
had always been to destroy the good opinion of any
one who was likely to take any interest in my case.
Thus, I daily looked to its end, which took place
in White Cross-street ; and that at a time when I
had most need, and was to have laid open to him,
all that his parent had done.

My desire was so great to have quitted my irk-
some abode, before an appointed day, on which a
youth of scarce sixteen, was destined to meet his
most untimely fate upon the gallows, that I tried
all possible means to effect it. I shuddered with
fear and impatience to be gone, but I was destined
to be the witness of a scene of the most appalling

nature, the painful sensations it produced were no less than the feelings that interested my heart for the unhappy youth. Finding the night previous to the execution, that the gates were closed, and that I must witness so fearful a sight, I caused my windows which overlooked the front to be shut up. All night I slept not, the wind pierced my ear through the desolate passages, its cries as it moaned again, seemed to be those of the dying boy. Good God! what horrid starts from my slumbers, instantaneously awaking me! Long before the dawn appeared, I was up, and waiting the twilight through the dark mist, and the fog floating along. High over the arched gate, the dreadful preparation of death appeared, the winds howling through the place, awoke no pity in those whose office it was to attend. They were accustomed to these fearful scenes. Oh God! I thought, how can they look on, and behold such things; but, to deter others from crimes, such fearful resolutions are necessary. Still, though the walls around were whitened over with the snow; like the thistles beard it hung so light; yet it seemed to rest upon the black walls and iron fence. The rear appeared

white with snow, but the front view I could no longer bear. How anxiously, how terrifically, did I watch! Still two hours had passed, at last the chapel bell rang. O God! it is the knell of death! What! I thought, what must be the feelings of him, who hears his knell tolled for him, that is now in life, full of health, upon the verge of eternity. Oh! who that could behold the scene, that would not endeavour by impressing its fearful solemnity, to try to deter the unwary from such an untimely fate. Hark again! Oh God! I hear it! six times it tolled again. Silence! as if the ministers of death were descending to preside over the fatal space. Again, as if they had placed themselves to their fixed posts it tolled; and slowly dying away, like the weak struggle of departing life from the body, and like the soul into eternity.

The chapel doors flew open, and full in view with slow and solemn pace, the procession advanced. Oh God! is there aught in convents' rites, where the most solemn scenes could appear half so dreadful as this. Those who were most callous, the most accustomed to such scenes, with mournful

pace and their heads all uncovered, advanced in solemn prayer. The officers with white staves, were followed by the Sheriffs, the Clergyman, and more officers; while in the centre was the boy. At sight of him, oh God! his eyes fixed only above, his hands though tied, were joined to heaven, his prayers, his moans alike pierced the murky air. I saw, and dropped from a chair upon which I stood. At the involuntary scream, a black cat which was often in my room, and to which I was kind, flew to me. As soon as I felt any symptoms of life, I perceived its paws upon my neck and face; it fawned so incessantly upon me, that it first seemed to call me to life and recollection. How long I lay, I know not; but as I ventured to raise the edge of the thick curtain, they were all gone, but motionless the fatal body hung. My attention was startled at the cries of a female; I rushed out, and found my neighbour had been in hysterics. My poor black cat followed, as still doubtful of my safety. What a feeling of kindness, did the poor animal in that moment, inspire in my mind! Oh human beings, were you to take example from each other, by the more harmless animals of the creation, what

miseries might you be spared. This was a fearful scene, still I would not have been ignorant of the feeling it had created, for all the pain it gave. And each night, as I awoke from the heavy visions of my restless slumbers, dark obscure fancy pictured the poor boy; and I compared his sole error to the many of Lord ——'s. What are his deserts? How many innocent victims does he and others of rank sacrifice, yet, still they escape unpunished. But that poor misguided youth had no money to redeem, nor interest to save; and thus he was suffered to meet the heaviest punishment of the law. Still, in the attitude he appeared to me, he was like the emblem of innocence going to heaven. Firm, but slow was his step! had he been a hardened criminal, I should not have felt so much; but a boy! how many that so solemnly paced along with him, merited worse than he. Still, such are the scenes of this world. So thick continued the fog, whose lurid vapours obscured the face of morn, that no bright gleam appeared that day.

Some days passed, still my release was deferred.

At last, though slowly advancing, Mr. B——, whose professed friendship was so great, that I was influenced by his persuasions to avoid the Insolvent Court, persuaded me to become an inmate in his family, by paying two guineas per week, and by such wise means, as this son of Lycurgus adopted, the captive lady became free again. Soon a loud tapping at my door, and clinking keys announced liberty. Not conducted or drawn by swans to freedom, but conducted to the gate by two forms, more calculated to rule the most ungovernable of the terrestrial kind, than of any other description. At the outer offices, Mr. Field waited for me. His sister, Mrs. Millington's house, No. 4, Temple-place, in the Rules, was the first I occupied. He afterwards attended me to the lodgings which he had taken for me for a week or a fortnight, to recover my health, which was fast declining. Mr. B——'s clerk, Mr. Butlin, and Mr. Field, attended to receive me, and to conduct me to them in the Kent Road; where, in the course of a few weeks, I so far recovered, as to be able to be removed to the house of Mr. Becket, Battersea Fields. The kind attention of Mrs. Becket was peculiar, while she

contributed as much as possible to my comforts. She made it a particular point, never to allow me to talk upon any business to her husband, except when she was present, and I always accompanied her to dress with a young woman who lived with them.

The state of my affairs, as Mr. Becket was a lawyer, rendered frequent conversation upon what was necessary to be done or adopted, finally to settle them which were so blended with the peculiar circumstances and conduct of my friends, who were of the first rank in England. That although I thought as well of Mrs. Becket, as of any one of her sex, yet I was persuaded I was not justified upon so slight an acquaintance, to lead her into things which related to my friends. Of my own affairs, I would have made no secret with her, and seeing that I could not take legal advice without a female president, I felt I should be wanting in that dignity, which consciousness of our own actions always ensures, to require a female as a lawyer also. I saw I could not at any time touch upon my affairs without hazarding Mrs. Becket's female confidantes know-

ing from her all things of moment; as I have found that many women have a female confidante, and that confidant another, and so on; that a matter so confided, is sure to be known; and thus much is done, and many things unpleasant, if not dangerous, to friends and females, occur by men allowing women to interfere with what does not become their sex. Matters of public affairs, for with such was I concerned, like those of my friends, required more delicacy, and as I should rather trust twenty men than one woman, unless of approved and tried integrity; I became quite determined to throw aside all business, and as a boarder, only to laugh or talk the time away. I therefore avoided any allusion even to my own affairs, which when called upon the tapis, I changed the subject. Mrs. Becket at last piqued at this, said, I see you do not desire my presence, therefore, if you wish it, I shall retire and leave you and Mr. Becket alone. Certainly not, I said, if you retire, so shall I, for it was expressed in that insinuating manner, that I saw I should not like to continue with them.

I had been a month, and had entered on the

fifth week when I sent for £10, which Mr. Field brought me; I was then resolved to leave them, and went to town with Mr. Field and a lady, a friend of mine, and engaged a lodging at Fludyer-street, Westminster, with the intention of entering upon them as soon as my week should be expired. I presented Mr. and Mrs. Becket with the £10 which was at the rate of two guineas per week; and I went up stairs to pack up some of my things. I returned to the room, just as dinner was ready; we sat down and dined as pleasantly as ever. Mr. Becket helped me to wine after dinner, and he helped Mrs. Becket at the same time; some conversation passed, and as I looked at her, I saw her countenance inflamed in a manner that startled me. Silence ensued for a time, Mr. Becket, she said, has deducted the £10 for law business done for you, and therefore, when will it be convenient for you to pay for your board? For my board? I have paid for it. I tell you that Mr. Becket has deducted it from your account. That, Madam, I shall not allow, Mr. Becket's engagement was to wait till my friends should settle my affairs. Her manner became warmer, and I

arose to leave the table. She raged, she stormed, and it being well known, as Ovid says, "what a raging woman could ——," I thought, Mr. Becket, she said, you would have fathomed and known her affairs; you see you would not take my advice. Oh, then, I was right, I exclaimed, and I now see; is it for that expected intelligence that I was invited here? if so, the object fails. She became more violent, and I was provoked so much, that fearful of saying any thing that might not be consistent with myself, I put on my cloak, and took only a night-gown, a night-cap and tooth-brush, with a few other things, some letters and papers which were about my room. Irritable in my temper, I quitted the house instantly.

It was past the hour for coaches to town, being about eight on a summer's evening. I walked all the way from Battersea, and arrived in Fludyer-street about nine o'clock. Whether passion had given me strength, I know not, but this was the greatest distance I ever walked. I felt tired, the people in Fludyer-street did not expect me till the next day; but, without delay, tea was got ready,

and before eleven I was in bed. The next day I received a letter from Mr. Becket, and soon after he and Mr. Butlin called. Every thing was said to excuse an ungovernable woman ; but, ere ten days had passed, she had so far inflamed the minds of the people at Fludyer-street, that the landlady made a peremptory demand of payment.

Seeing her both violent and alarming. and saying how I had behaved at Mrs. Becket's, that I had not paid them, I felt so indignant that I wrote to Lord Palmerston, requesting he would pay her, which, I had no doubt, he would ; but to him she gave the same, if not a worse account, so that he would not pay her, nor even reply to my request. She came home and stormed worse even than Mrs. Becket, and told me that the officers had been to Mrs. Becket's to arrest me, and that they had been to her house that morning, but that she did not like to tell me. I knew, that in the unsettled state of my affairs, many creditors would have arrested me, if they had known my abode. I therefore wrote another note to Lord Palmerston, and gave her an order, requesting particularly that he would pay her ; and

as he alone knew those facts of my case, I told him the reasons which obliged me to leave her house, which I did, without taking any thing with me, but which were afterwards sent to me there.

I sent Mr. Field and wrote to Mrs. Becket, to acquaint her, that if his Lordship refused to pay her, I would at some future period pay her the little due for lodgings and attendance for the ten days. I took only my letters with me ; I put on my cloak, and crossing the park, I went directly to Mrs. Turner, Golden-square, where I formerly lodged for a little time, and where Colonel Maclean and John, my old servant, had lived. She professed kindness to me at all times. It was here that the Colonel, from the refusal of his hand and fortune, occasioned my first difference with Lord Palmerston, even though I refused his letters, which I returned unopened, at Lord Palmerston's instigation, after he had forced into my presence to say "farewell, to the Indies, Caroline, I go, never to return ; but to you, in riches or in poverty, when you command. But, if ever you should require sincere civility on my account, as much as

on your own, at Mrs. Turner's house, at any time, you will always find it."

I went thus disguised to Mrs. Turner, and told her I had fled to avoid an arrest, and my stay would be about a fortnight. She expressed every seeming friendship; you cannot, I suppose, send for your clothes, then? I told her all. You shall have every thing that I can offer, for some weeks, she said, therefore, consider yourself at home, it is this day twelve-month that the Colonel left me, I suppose, for ever; and he talked of you, just as he was going. Sometimes he raved like a mad man, sometimes he used to swear he would not think of you any more. Still, late and early you were the subject, and for hours he used to walk about like one out of his senses. I suppose he will never come to England any more? That, madam, I cannot say; and as I wished to avoid the subject, I have not a single thing with me, I said, but there are some clothes of mine, though too fine for a disguise, which are left, since I used to dine and dress at Mr. Penn's, New-street, Spring-gardens; if you can send the house-keeper will let her

daughter come with them to me, and I can entrust her in all things. I wrote a note which the servant carried, and Mrs. ———, the house-keeper, sent her daughter early the next day.

I was obliged to take the name of Miss ———, and I was known in the house as Mrs. Turner's niece. A young lady, or rather a young female, from Scotland, arrived, to superintend for Mrs. Turner. She told me so deplorable a tale of her shipwreck upon the coast of Wales, which forced her to be a dependant on Mrs. Turner, that I felt an interest in her situation. There are traces in human minds which oblige us to feel an interest for the sorrows of others. I had not been ten days there before I received a letter from the Duke of Gordon. She recognised the frank immediately upon the Postman's delivering it, and redoubled her assiduities.

During this time, finding, by her apparent candour that she felt inclined to assist me with her advice. amongst other matters, one night, as she and I lay awake, for we slept in a large room. I stated

to her, as an instance of still greater persecution than that which she mentioned to me, of one of her country friends, the conduct of Lady Anne Hamilton, by whom I had been deceived by plausible appearances. Still, I thought, that although the character of the Scotch is to look at words, as well as gold, to turn to use, still I did not think, in so young a person, to find any thing of the kind.

Lord Grantley, whom I was in the habit of meeting at Mr. Penn's assemblies in New-street, the last time we met, said in the hearing of the Baron and the Earl of ———, and many more, as he was retiring from the refreshment room: Miss Cary, it is ten years since, you, then I may say, a child in the height of youth and beauty, under the care of my friend, Lady Beechey, led off the dance with me, in Harley-street, Cavendish-square; he knew that I had been in the Rules, and had fallen from that elevation of fortune, in which he had known me in early days. His offers were public, that if at any time I required his friendship, he begged I would call upon him. I promised him I would;

this occurred about a few months previous to my arrest, after which I went to Mr. Becket's, and from thence, when I found that I could not commit my affairs to Mr. Becket, I wrote to Lord Grantley the week before this quarrel with Mrs. Becket. When he called there, he was directed to Fludyer-street; but I was on the point of leaving that place, and I deferred seeing him till some future opportunity.

... I had been about a fortnight at Mrs. Turner's, when I wrote again to him, and to acquaint him that I had been obliged to fly to avoid an arrest, and under the name of Miss —, he would find me at No. —, Golden-square. The next day, a gentleman whom I recognised to be Mr. Norton, called; I saw him, but, as my acquaintance with Lord Grantley proceeded from my long intimacy with those friends with whom I was at variance, I wished him to undertake a reconciliation between us, and this was my principal anxiety to see him; but with this anxiety, I felt no inclination to confide to a dashing young man, who was an entire stranger to me. I, therefore, only talked to him upon the ordinary state of my debts and affairs, expressing

my desire to see his Lordship, who, he assured me, was so ill with the gout, that he was unable to attend on me for a time. I deferred then urging the matter at that moment, and I found by some underhand means, that the Scotch party had been communicative; that Mrs. Turner and Miss ——, my new Scotch friend, were acquainted with my revolt from the Queen's party, after the death of Her Majesty; a circumstance which they could learn only by having had some private conferences, in that part on which Lady Anne felt so sore. I soon saw their manner somewhat altered; nor did I then know the cause, and it was most ingeniously concealed from me, that Lord Grantley had been some months dead, and the title possessed by another.

I have digressed from my abode with Mrs. Turner, Golden-square, and the receipt of a letter from the Duke; the lady whom I have mentioned as chargé d'affaires for Mrs. Turner, was, as I have observed, Scotch, and as she and I slept in one room, amongst other things, the Queen's affairs and Lady Anne Hamilton were particularly obtruded on me; whether it is accident, I said, or intended,

I will always speak as I have found, and then I spoke of Lady Anne's conduct, of which I complained. I observed each word was seemingly caught up and treasured, and I found that communications were sought with Lady Anne, and returned by personal intercourse. In a few days, the whole scene was changed from civility to mystic conferences between the Scotch lady and Mrs. Turner. One day, Mrs. Turner went to Lord Palmerston's office, but she was quickly dismissed. She had no sooner told me that she had done so, than I instantly pledged myself that I would not stay another day in the house. I stood up and left the room and went to call on some friends; they were not in town, but were expected on the following day. I took lodgings in their neighbourhood, and gave a reference to them. The people of the house knew me, and agreed to get the apartments ready for me. The same night, I returned to Golden-square, and told Mrs. Turner that I had done so, she detained me till after dinner, offering to lend me even money, but I was resolved to go that night; meantime she and her confidante retired, and a person was sent to the lodgings to say

that I was the celebrated Miss Cary. Fortunately, I sent all my things to New-street, Spring-gardens, and carried only a book and a few articles. Mrs. Turner sent a female with me, but after I had arrived at the house, I was informed it was not possible to prepare the lodgings, till the reference could be obtained; for that a person had been there who had made a secret of their name, and they were sorry they could not receive me, till the afternoon of the next day. I was then at once aware who had sent there, as I had not seen any one to mention my new abode to, except Mrs. Turner and her friends.

The people were polite; but I ordered a coach, and desired the coachman to drive to the first hotel from thence. I wrote again to the lady to whom I gave the reference; her servant waited on me, and informed me, that she would be in town the next day. I walked with the young woman across the Park to Pimlico, wishing to take lodgings there to be at rest for some time. At E—— street, a bill presented itself, and I looked at the lodgings: I was wrapped up in a close bonnet and cloak;

I took the lodgings which they said were then ready. Perhaps, they said, you are a stranger in town? if so, they are ready now. I engaged to come in the evening, and I went to Queen-square to pass the afternoon. I had sealed my letters and papers with an old seal, which Mrs. Turner wished me to keep while with her, as I had not my own with me, and as all the packets I had were sent to New-street, I said to her, I would wish to keep the seal, as it was neither of value nor of use to her. She said, certainly I might do so. As I felt no inclination to leave behind me a seal with which my papers were sealed, I carried it with me by her consent. The lodgings in E—— street were to be let quarterly or monthly, I refused to take them for either periods; but for one week certain. But when I had been a second day there, a private family hired the whole apartments, and came into the house with their luggage, the night before I left; the next morning, Mrs. Turner pretending she did not know I had taken her seal, made a pretext of sending a gentleman to me for it, and he was authorised by her to say, that Lord Grantley had called on her, and desired her to acquaint me, that

he was willing to render me every possible service, legal and pecuniary.

Notwithstanding the nature of this communication, the man was shut up in the parlour with the people of the house, and I heard them distinctly say, the lady may be so or not, but we have let our house, and she was to have left us this morning. I was going into the garden when I heard this, and turning round I saw it was the same man. Some persons soon after called upon me, and I desired them to look for a lodging in the street, or any where near. They fixed upon one near; I engaged with the people, who were musicians, for their apartments by the week. I had written to a lady in the country, who announced to board and lodge a number of young ladies of any age, whose references and payments were undeniable. I knew that if I applied to my friends, I could give both. Every arrangement being made for me, I was to have gone the following month; when one day, Mrs. Turner called, I reproached her for her conduct; she stated her attention to me, and while at her house as I wore dresses, which were the only ones

I had there; it was usual with me to wear long gloves with them, but, as in a board and lodging house, that was not at all necessary. Mrs. Turner, offered to lend me some white sleeves, and which for some days I wore; of those even she made mention. The lady to whose house I was to go, came to call upon me. Mrs. Turner and she met in the parlour, and a private communication with her immediately after took place. Mrs. Turner, amongst other matters accused me of writing assignations to a gentleman who, she said, was in her house; the gentleman's name I did not even know till she mentioned it. I treated the whole conduct with the indignations he merited, and then on purpose to plague her, I wrote daily, for several days, anonymous letters fixing appointments to the gentleman, but took care he should not know who wrote them, and always, if he ever went, sending him a long distance; all those letters were read, and directed by a gentleman, a friend of mine, to whom I stated her conduct to see what next she would say or do; the consequence was, the lady in the country said, that a communication had been made to her, which would

he was willing
legal and

Not
tion, th
peopl
say.
ou
in

for some months ;
once. I then said,
d to pursue me? or is
uple, in whose house I was,
to be equally uncivil; it had
I had run away, no doubt from
my friends; for I had shut myself
that I was determined to acquaint
I wrote to Mr. H——, who
when I first knew him,
I sent it to an hotel, near Westminster, where
I heard he resided; but what was my surprise to
find that it was a man of the name, who resided
there, and who in person, because he had used the
name, was admitted to me. When I found my
mistake, I required both the letters I addressed
to him, or which he had improperly opened, but
he refused; but said he felt happy to be of service,
if I would command him, though he could
not give up the letters. I therefore treated him
as his conduct merited: I spurned his services, nor
ever would see or hear more from him, though he
wrote to me several times.

The people of the house had behaved so ill, but more especially a gentleman who occupied some part of it, wrote me letters declaring his knowledge of me in certain families; but although I replied, that I knew no such persons, he would not believe me; he wrote me particular letters, which induced me to send for the woman of the house: I called for her bill for ten days, and I gave an order on Lord Palmerston, of whom she so often made mention, having lived in the family. When she saw this, guilt and confusion was visible in her countenance; you had better, I said, see if I am known there before I go. She went early and returned; the servants, she said, all knew me, his Lordship was not up. I shall be here, I said, till the week is expired, if he does not pay you I will. I went away, but in three days, I paid her all I considered I justly owed; but whether Lord Palmerston paid her more or not, I never took the trouble to enquire. I then saw the infamy of those characters, who often, under the name of respectable housekeepers, will, for money, countenance any act, however bad; she was, besides all this, a jealous woman, and one of that kind, who

deceive the innocent and unguarded. Such women so degraded in their moral ideas, ought to be hunted from the presence of virtue; for though they have procured a licence for a name of being married, yet the most abandoned, are not worse than these; as under that sanction they are a curse to their husbands, to themselves, and to all who come in contact with them who are free from errors themselves; and therefore unable to deal with, or even to comprehend them.

I was roused to such indignation when I returned to pay her at Pimlico, that I could scarcely contain myself from putting a letter into the public papers, respecting the treatment; and Mrs. Becket, whose jealousy sent me amongst such wretches, as those I have described, I was now determined should annoy me no more. I went to the neighbourhood of the Adelphi, and sent for some persons, and desired that respectable accommodations should be immediately sought for me. They instantly attended to my wishes, but I could not be accommodated for some days; and therefore, as the town was so full, lodgings in an obscure

street, were the only ones to be had. I went there ; I had not been there a second day, before I discovered a person in the house who made me shudder, and I found even escape from him was almost impossible. I pretended indifference, and finding I was still unknown, I immediately applied to an Earl, who instantly, not only complied with my wishes, but engaged to see me the next day. I wrote to acquaint him, that in two days he should see me at Adam-street ; in the meantime, my friends came, the accommodations were made, and the family ready to receive me, and I resided with them near six months in Adam-street. The Earl shortly after called on me, his conduct was the most kind, disinterested and generous, but like all obligations, it was attended with an after circumstance which had nearly been of a fatal nature, had not an apology taken place between the Earl and a gentleman, a friend of mine.

My engagements at Adam-street were to be exempt from breakfasting with the party, and to be at liberty to retire whenever I wished after dinner without even comment. I therefore used to find

in my own sitting-room, to which I always retired, an indulgence in thought, which a crowded table would not admit. My music books and other things, once more filled up my time, and amused my mind. Amongst the inhabitants of the house I was in, there was a Mr. M——, who, from a recent family misfortune, the loss of his wife, was seeking relaxation of mind from sorrow. During some weeks I resided with Mr. and Miss Boulton, brother and sister, who kept the house. Miss Boulton was what might be called rather pretty; tall, and clever in every respect. I liked her very much, and had not Mr. H—— transferred his attentions to me, which were before directed to Miss Boulton; we might have been still better friends. Mr. H—— proposed a visit to Bath, and even to place me there with relatives of his; but to all his civilities I listened without any desire or intention to avail myself of them in any respect; until at last, I was determined on that account to quit the house. I could not, I knew, marry, and therefore did not feel justified in encouraging the attentions of any man, whatever his real sentiments might be. Mr. H—— having heard that I was going to leave the house,

determined to go also, which he did the night of that day I quitted it, and shortly after, I found he was living near Clarendon House, where I went to reside.

I had not more than three months to attend to all in which I wished to improve myself, and as a flattering advertisement was issued in the public papers, of the advantages that house afforded, my friends were induced to consider it as an eligible situation; since it was impossible I found, that at Adam-street, I could be as retired as I wished. The agreement at Clarendon House was at £200 per annum, to be paid quarterly. I had not been many days there, when I found things the most uncomfortable. The object of my residence there, was, as the advertisement announced, that any handwriting, however bad, would be corrected to an elegant hand in a short time. As I had resolved to accompany an exalted family to a distant part, and as I write such a bad hand, my friends were desirous I should make the effort; at all events, to change or improve my hand. The lady of the house was quite the school mistress, and her hus-

band the writing master. The lady took it into her head, that her husband was very attentive to me ; her *chargé d'affaires* told me so, and said do you not observe that my mistress always goes instantly into the room, whenever her husband is there with you ; she never leaves the parlour while he is teaching you. I had observed all that, but till then considered it as a compliment. I felt no ordinary indignation, at finding myself watched by a school mistress ; but when I found she was equally watchful of the youngest, as of the oldest in the house, I thought this, indeed, was a school. Here the mind that never once thought of error, might soon give way, which perhaps would never have otherwise occurred ; and had the being in question been any one worth my notice, than as a teacher, I should have gloried in flirting with him ; a thing I never should have thought of, had not a jealous woman given me the idea. Those women whose ideas are such, must themselves feel a want of real virtue ; though under the pretext of a marriage licence, they are highly offended with those, who exclaim against them. That woman who suspects another, because she is handsomer or more amiable

than herself, must feel within herself, that if left alone with man, she could not act with correctness. I pity them from my heart, let their characters be what they may.

I was so disgusted from the hour the lady in question had given me this account of the jealousy of her mistress, that I could not dissemble my indignation as I could have wished. One day, at dinner, her husband seemed particularly attentive in helping me to something at table, and almost immediately after he said, Miss C—— I shall take some wine with you. I had scarcely put down the glass from my hand, when I saw the lowering countenance of the wife. I took no notice of it; but, before the cloth was removed, he said, Miss Cary, if you have any letters to town, to-morrow, I shall deliver them for you, if in my way. At this, the enraged wife flew into a violent passion, and attacked him in such a manner, that I rose and retired to my room. I desired the maid to pack up my clothes, which I sent on to Adam-street before me, and desired the woman to send a coach, into which I stepped, without saying good

bye to the lady or to any one. The family in Adam-street were delighted to receive me again, and I told them what had passed. I had sent for my own use a piano-forte to Clarendon House, which, with my portmanteau, was there. I sent for their account, as I had been but three months in their house; but they detained the piano-forte, which was the property of another, for what was due, until I had advised my Solicitor to pay whatever demand they made upon me. So much for the treatment of that party.

END OF VOL II.

London:

Printed by T. Traveller, Park-street, Dorset-square.

81 354ST 53 005 A 3Y 6E 6126





Stanford University Libraries



3 6105 014 918 804

DATE DUE			
APR 20 1987			

STANFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305-6004

